The New-York Times.

VOL. XI....NO. 3192. NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1861. PRICE THREE CENTS.

IMPORTANT FROM CHARLESTON.

A Great Conflagration in the Heart of the City.

Half the Place Reported to be in Ashes.

Public Buildings and Churches Destroyed.

INCENDIARIES AT WORK.

RUMORS OF A SLAVE INSURRECTION.

Interesting Extracts from the Charleston Papers.

How the National Troops Might Approach the City.

A Discussion of the Propriety of Applying the Torch.

NEWS BY WAY OF FORTRESS MONROE.

Special Dispatches to the New-York Times.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Dec. 13.

A telegraphic dispatch to the Norfolk *Day Book* of this date, received by a flag of truce which was sent from here to-day, announces the burning of Charleston. Whether it was caused by the whites or blacks I am unable as yet to say.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Dec. 13.

A flag of truce, under command of Capt. MILLWARD, took Mr. EDDEY, of North Carolina, to Craney Island to-day.

A telegraph dispatch to the Norfolk *Day Book* to-day, from Charleston, S. C., states that a fire broke out in that place on Wednesday night, which was supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. At the date of the last dispatch, five o'clock Thursday afternoon, the fire was still burning. The theatre on Broad-street, the Institute, and other public buildings are stated to have been destroyed. The fire swept across Broad-street. Assistance was sent from Augusta.

LATER AND FULLER PARTICULARS.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Dec. 13.

The Norfolk *Day Book* of to-day gives the following startling intelligence:

BRANCHVILLE, Thursday, Dec. 12.

Passengers who have just arrived here report a destructive fire last night at Charleston.

The telegraph wires in that city were destroyed by fire.

The fire commenced in Charleston last night, at 9 o'clock, in RUSSEL & Co.'s sash factory, at the foot of Hazel-street, and communicated to the opposite side of Hazel, to CAMERON & Co.'s machine shops.

Under the impulse thus given and a stiff breeze with a small supply of water, the conflagration assumed a formidable character, nearly equaling the most extensive conflagration on the American continent.

The theatre, FLOYD'S coach-factory, opposite the express office, the old Executive Building, and all the houses between that point and Queen-street, are burned. The whole of one side of Broad-street is destroyed, from Col. GADSDEN'S residence to Mazyck-street. A considerable portion of the city, from East Bay to King-street, is destroyed. Among the prominent buildings burned are the Institute and St. Andrews Halls, theatre, Catholic Cathedral and the Circular Church.

At last accounts from Charleston, up to 5 this morning, the fire had crossed Broad-street, and was sweeping furiously on.

The telegraph lines to Charleston are down, consequently we are not able to state whether the fire has ceased or not.

STILL LATER.

BRANCHVILLE, Thursday, Dec. 12—5 P. M.

The fire is still raging.

A thousand houseless persons are huddled in the streets.

The express train left Augusta this afternoon, with provisions, to supply the wants of the sufferers, and men to assist in controlling the fire.

The fire was the work of an incendiary.

DISPATCH TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 13, *via* BALTIMORE, Dec. 14.

An incendiary fire broke out in Charleston at 9 o'clock on the evening of the 11th.

At 5 o'clock the next day it was still raging.

Nearly all that part of the city, from Broad-street on the Southeast Bay on the east, and King-street on the west, is said to be destroyed, including the Catholic Cathedral, the Circular Church, the Institute, St. Andrew's Hall, the Theatre and the Executive Rooms.

An extra train had left Augusta with supplies for the sufferers, thousands of whom roamed the streets and assistance to fight the fire.

It is supposed to be a negro insurrection, though this view of the case is excluded from the dispatches.

REPORTS RECEIVED IN BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, Dec. 14.

Outside reports say that the fire at Charleston originated in the mill on Broad-street; also that the Mills House and the Roman Catholic Cathedral were destroyed.

There are flying rumors of a negro insurrection at Charleston, but nothing definite is known.

One report of the fire says that it broke out in a sash factory, and that engines were sent from Savannah, Columbia and Augusta to subdue it, but arrived too late to stay the conflagration.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, Dec. 14, 1861.

The Old Point boat brings the report of the discovery and prompt suppression by the military authorities of a negro insurrection at Charleston.

The account states that the plot was disclosed by the body-servant of a military officer, who said that the negroes of the city were to be joined by large bands of negroes from the country, who were to come in armed at night. He said that the sash factory had been fired by a free negro, whom he designated and who has been arrested.

A small quantity of arms had been found under the floor of a negro cabin. They were all new and in good order. In other negro cabins knives and hatchets were found secreted.

The greatest consternation prevailed. Families were closing and barring their windows.

The fire companies being composed of men who are engaged on military duty elsewhere, the fire engines were worked by negroes, who broke and rendered useless the two best ones.

The offices of the *Courier* and *Mercury* are said to be destroyed.

Another account states that negro insurrections broke out in the interior of South Carolina two days before the fire, and are still raging unchecked, but this last report is not well authenticated.

REPORTS RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 14.

A special dispatch from Baltimore to the Philadelphia *Inquirer* attributes the fire to a slave insurrection, and says that one-half of Charleston is in ruins.

THE TEMPER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINIANS.

Files of the Charleston *Mercury*, to a late date, have come to hand. We make the following extracts:

"PREPARATIONS FOR OUR DANGERS."

From the Charleston Mercury, Nov. 14.

The danger to Charleston, from the Yankee invaders, appears to be in three directions: First, from the passage of gunboats and light-draft transports, through the inland navigation. They command the communication by water, because we have no gunboats with 11-inch shell guns to meet their advance; and, if the communication is open, they might pass into Ashley River and shell Charleston. But it is not difficult to close this intricate and shallow passage. The sinking of a few hulks at the Church Flats and at Wappoo Cut, would easily accomplish the object. It is quite possible, however, that the thoroughly-equipped expedition may have anticipated such obstructions, and be prepared to blow up the hulks we may sink. It has been proved that powder, placed on the top of obstructions under water, by reason of the superincumbent pressure, is able to blow them to pieces, so that it would not be hard for the Yankees to rid themselves of our sunken vessels, provided they have safe access and sufficient time to operate with their submarine blasting contrivances. But a shore battery at these narrow approaches would suffice to keep them off, and thus effectually cut off their egress by inland navigation to Charleston.

The next point of danger to the city is James Island and its proximate shore opposite South Bay-street. In the hands of the enemy, Charleston might be shelled from thence. From Lighthouse Island beach the way is easy and short to James Island, and in a few hours an army might be landed on that beach, Or by taking Island after island, Edisto and John's Island, the passage of a Yankee army to James Island by flat-boats across Stono River would be secured, and nothing could prevent it but a strong force located on James Island, ready to resist such a passage. An intrenched camp and heavy forces stationed there, would enable us to get what we want—a battle on land. With these, Charleston could not be taken until after a bloody pitched battle, in which we will never believe the Yankees can prevail.

The third quarter of attack is the deep waters of the harbor channel. Fortunately the 40-gun frigates, which have so recently demonstrated their powers in Port Royal, cannot get in, and the gunboats and smaller craft alone are capable of making the attempt. They must pass between the tremendous batteries of Forts Moultrie and Sumter, which have splendidly drilled artillerists to work and aim their formidable guns, possessing, too, the advantage of a plunging fire. The only danger here is, the enemy's attempting to run the gauntlet in large numbers in the day, with the prospect of some boats getting through, or by sneaking in at night. To prevent the success of such attempts, obstructions have already been put across the channel, so as to detain the enemy long enough under the guns of the forts to blow them to pieces with shells, or fire them with hot shot. Fire ships, besides, are not forgotten. So long as these obstructions last, the foe are only in our net for bagging; but a great deal undoubtedly depends upon the ability of these obstructions to resist the weight of the Yankee flotilla, coming down upon them with tide and a full head of steam. Once will stand the shock and stop the headway, and the enemy are ours in any such game. Steel-clad gunboats, and all, at that short distance, under the plunging fire of such batteries, and such practical gunners as we possess, must come off second best, if they come off at all. The result, then, hangs very much upon the weight and strength of the impediments we have, and no time is to be lost in adding in every possible way to them, in these essential particulars.

Perhaps, in addition to these vital matters of prompt preparation, it might be a good precaution to obstruct the passage of the Ashley, by sinking one or two hulks in the narrow channel off the point of the Battery Garden. Gunboats could then, in no event, get round into Ashley River, and would be at least confined within the fire of Fort Pinckney, Fort Johnson, and a tier of guns along East Bay Battery. Effective guns on Castle Pinckney, in such an event, would not be useless.

We throw out the above plain, common sense hints for what they may be worth. We have officers of high accomplishments, both of the army and navy, and skillful engineers, and having once decided upon the sources of danger, and our deficiencies, with the plans for meeting them, their work of preparation will, we doubt not, go rapidly on. The present is a time for decided action. With Gens. LEE, RIPLEY and TRAPIER, with Capts. INGRAHAM, HARTSTEIN and HAMILTON, we trust the tug of war will not come too soon for Charleston.

A HUMANE AND CHARACTERISTIC SUGGESTION.

To the Editor of the Charleston Mercury:

As our enemies are at length in our midst, and doing their utmost to carry out their fiendish schemes upon our sea islands, and as it is supposed that their next efforts may be directed against Savannah or Charleston, I beg leave to make a suggestion, to give them a taste of the cup they design for us.

I would propose that our Mayor be requested to have the Yankee prisoners at Columbia brought down to Charleston, and that all of them from the two cities, together with as many more as the Government can be induced to send us from Richmond, be divided into squads of about twenty-five, and chained together; that they then be distributed and placed in wooden buildings in all the various parts of the city, and that notice be then sent, by flag of truce, to the commander of the fleet, that should he be able to effect a passage by our forts, and attempt to shell the town, his own brethren shall, at all events, be made to bear *their full share* of the effects of fire, shot and shells, which he destined for the particular benefit of our wives and children. We may, in this way, force those devils in human shape to meet us fairly on land at the point of the bayonet, instead of standing off at a comparatively safe distance and destroying us at leisure.

The mode of warfare they have adopted, and *are now carrying out*, will justify any mode of defence on our part. Yours, W. M.

HOW TO TREAT THE SLAVES.

From the Charleston Mercury.

It can never be expected that everybody will agree as to the policy to be pursued, where their property is to be destroyed. Moscow was not burned by all her people. A few noblemen set fire to their dwellings, and the fire was fed by the lowest and most vicious of her populace, with a view to plunder. People are loth to part voluntarily with their property. It is usually torn from them when they lose it. Hence it it is absurd to expect that people will resolve *unanimously* to burn up their houses. It is equally unreasonable to expect that all planters will burn up their cotton. These resorts, to embarrass or defeat an enemy, ought to be effected by the military authority. They only can make a clean thing of it.

Nor can we expect that all men will agree as to the policy to be pursued with respect to our slaves on the coast. Some have not the means to remove their slaves and support them afterwards. Some are filled with a false confidence in the Yankees. It is asked, What do they want them for? and what could they do with them?—as if hatred and revenge ever lacked expedients to display its devilry—and then there are some who think that if you glut the Yankees with our island slaves they will let those on the main alone; therefore let the slaves alone.

Now, if it can be shown that any good under the sun can come of the intercourse of the Yankees with the slaves, we would agree that they should be left with the Yankees. Supposing that they are neither carried off, nor used in any way against us, will they not be demoralized by Yankee intercourse? But will they be merely demoralized? We published, a few days ago, the order of the Secretary of War of the United States, Mr. CAMERON, to Gen. SHERMAN, as to the course he should pursue in this expedition with our slaves. The order spoke as follows:

"You will, in general, avail yourself of the services of any persons, whether fugitives from labor or not, who may offer themselves to the National Government; you will employ such persons in such service as they may be fitted for, either as ordinary employes, or, if special circumstances require it, in any other capacity, with such *organization, in squads, companies, or otherwise*, as you deem most beneficial to the service. This, however, does not mean a *general* arming of them for military service. You will assure all loyal masters that Congress will provide just compensation to them for the loss of the persons so employed."

Now, we do not wish to analyze the above words. Let our readers, each for himself, weigh their significancy. If they do not lead him, if he can, to take his slaves beyond the control of the Yankees, no argument can influence him. Burn our cotton and provisions, rather than let our enemies have them. Carry away our slaves; *and treat those who voluntarily remain, against our authority, as enemies.* This is our only policy. We may be discomfited for awhile; but we will ultimately regain our land, and scourge into the sea all our foes.

ANOTHER FIGHT IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

A Nine Hours' Battle Between 750 National Troops and 2,000 Rebels.

The Rebels Driven Back to Staunton With Heavy Losses.

Johnson, the Rebel General, Wounded.

A Major and Many Other Officers Killed.

CINCINNATI, Saturday, Dec. 14.

A special dispatch from Cheat Mountain, to the *Commercial*, says:

"On yesterday one of the hardest and best fought battles of the war was fought at Allegheny Camp, Pocahontas Co., Va., between Gen. R. H. MILROY, commanding the Union troops, and Gen JOHNSON, of Georgia, commanding the rebels.

The fight lasted from daylight till 3 P. M.

The Union loss is about 30, and the rebel loss over 200, including a Major and many other officers, and thirty prisoners.

Gen. JOHNSON was shot in the mouth but not fatally. The Twelfth Georgia Regiment suffered the most.

Gen. MILROY'S force numbered 750 men, from the Ninth and Thirteenth Indiana, and the Twenty-fifth and Thirty-second Ohio and the Second Virginia.

Gen. JOHNSON'S force numbered over 2,000 men.

The Ninth Indiana Regiment fought bravely to the last. After driving the enemy into their barracks no less than five times, our forces retired in good order.

The rebels set fire to their camp and retreated to Stanton.

Gen. MILROY has driven the last army out of Western Virginia."

THE CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESCAPE OF FLOYD?

A LETTER FROM ADJT.-GEN. STEIN, OF GEN. MORRIS' STAFF.

The Western Press devotes itself to the discussion of the issue between Gens. ROSECRANS and BENHAM, in regard to which of those officers is responsible for the escape of FLOYD from Cotton Hill. ROSECRANS charges that BENHAM failed to catch the runaway felon, through tardiness in executing his orders; while the friends of BENHAM allege that he besough in vain permission to attack, although his force was less than half that of the rebel chief; and that he was recalled from the pursuit of the fugitive at the moment he was on the eve of seizing his baggage train Capt. STEIN, who was Adjutant-General to Brig.-Gen MORRIS, of the Indiana Volunteers, who commanded in some of the earlier movements in Western Virginia, takes up the controversy warmly in behalf o BENHAM, writing a long and eloquent letter on the subject to the Lafayette (Ind.) *Journal*. After referring to Gen. BENHAM, "as an old officer, who in his capacity as engineer, reconnoitered the ground and planned the battle of Buena Vista, in which he personally participated as a member of Gen. TAYLOR'S Staff;" and alluding to some disparaging references to the standing of the General among the "three months' volunteers," he says:

"Let it be said for BENHAM, at present, that the insinuation above advanced against him, touching his standing among the three months' men in Western Virginia, is entirely without foundation; for throughout the whole of that brief and brilliant campaign, he was a leading spirit, as Gen. MORRIS, on whose staff he served, can attest, and at all times the reverse of 'indecision, timidity, and fear of prompt, bold action.' Indeed it is possible that when the whole story comes to be unraveled, it will be found that it was his very decision, daring and promptness, that has made him an unpleasant object to the eye of a jealous commander, and betrayed him into the arrest which, in his simplicity, he is so much puzzled to comprehend. Gen. MORRIS can say with what zeal, energy, and heroism he served under him from his first arrival in the enemy's country to the time when Carrick's Ford was fought and the three-months troops returned home. He was then serving on the General's staff as Captain of Engineers, but he brought to the field the ripe experience of thirty years, and a mind to which all the science of war was as familiar as a household word. Col. PORTERFIELD, Gen. GARNETT, and the whole rebel gang who infested Western Virginia, from the Ohio River to the Laurel Ridge, had occasion in their day to feel the sting of his strategy and inveterate activity. He was, if anything, too alert and persevering; straining the men occasionally almost beyond the power of endurance; but as for timidity—the charge is raw and groundless. *He knows no fear.*

When Gen. MORRIS arrived in Western Virginia, BENHAM'S valuable counsel aided him in planning the assault on Phillippi, which so well succeeded. When, afterwards, MORRIS beleaguered GARNETT at Laurel Hill, and cooped him up in his entrenchments for five days, BENHAM had charge of the vanguard, along the line of which a constant and dangerous skirmishing was maintained. During this while he was in his saddle night and day, ever prepared for attack, and chafing at the prohibition which prevented the blockading force from making an attack itself. When, at last, GARNETT was reported as in flight, (an act at the time unexpected and unaccountable,) it was BENHAM who headed the reconnoissance sent forward by MORRIS to investigate the mystery; a reconnoissance which he pushed inside the rebel entrenchments, and then, in the impetuosity of his desire to overtake the fugitives, immediately converted into a *column of pursuit* and sped forward. This certainly did not savor much of 'indecision, timidity and fear of prompt action.' It was his very eagerness in this matter which carried his soldiers forward *with empty haversacks*, and obliged them to endure that terrible march of twenty miles, which finally brought them up with GARNETT at Carrick's Ford, where they fought and won, after having toiled for eighteen hours through rain, darkness, mud, mountains and rivers, with but a cracker to a man. If the 'daring of the soldiers' required better 'suiting,' they might soon have found themselves suited with a berth in the hospital, if not in the ground.

At Carrick's Ford, where the column under his immediate command found itself exposed to a plunging, (and what only the unskilfulness of the rebel gunners prevented from being a dicimating,) fire, BENHAM, undismayed and dauntless, moved up and down the lines; the most conspicuous mark to the enemy; delivering his orders with a promptness and judgment, and disposing his forces with a quickness and art which soon sent the rebels flying panic-stricken from their stronghold, and left their General a corpse upon the field. Those who witnessed his gallant bearing on that occasion, can but smile to hear him stigmatized as timid, etc.

As regards his pursuit of FLOYD, it is enough to say that the conduct of BENHAM was such as leaves a fair suspicion that he is at present persecuted by his commanding officer through unjust motives. Newspapers talk of BENHAM as if he had acted throughout on an unlimited discretion of his own, whereas in prosecuting the manœuvre having in view the surrounding of FLOYD, he crossed the Kanawha and took position exactly in accordance with orders from ROSECRANS; and if that position was poor it was the latter's fault; and it BENHAM remained in it an undue time, it was because he was not at liberty to leave it without orders. When at last he got those he promptly moved forward, though obliged to commence his march in the dead of night. The exceeding caution necessary in moving an inferior command in an enemy's vicinity, through defiles and amid mountains, is a sufficient reason why, with all his accustomed celerity, he did not reach the outposts of FLOYD until the next afternoon For, with all his eagerness, BENHAM has great prudence, and, as is well known, he has time and again avowed that he defied the rebels to ensnare him with masked batteries. The fine instinct of self-preservation so peculiar to FLOYD taught him by this time to fly, and he availed himself of midnight to leave. But BENHAM heard the rumble of his wagon, and at once took measures to investigate, and, as soon as satisfied of the flight, he pushed in pursuit. This pursuit he maintained through most tempestuous weather, skirmishing as he went along. It was in the course of this pursuit that the rebel Col. CROGHAN, whose dying words to BENHAM have been so much spoken of, met his end. At length Gen. SCHENCK, following after, and acting as the deputy of ROSECRANS, recalled BENHAM. But even in the recall BENHAM begged the privilege of chasing five miles further, confident of being able to catch the fugitives in that distance. It is inconceivable how, under these circumstances, he could be blamed for indecision, timidity, &c.

To bring a long article to its close, it is only to add that a good deal of newspaper firing has been had at BENHAM, for no other fault than his arrest, and that the preponderance of evidence indicates this arrest as interested on the part of ROSECRANS. It is safe at all times to Incline in favor of BENHAM, who is wholly a soldier; while ROSECRANS is half politician. BENHAM never was a politician, and never could be. Outside his profession, he is a man of most agreeable simplicity of character and manner. He knows nothing of ulterior ambitions. His only anxiety is to acquit himself as a soldier. In council he is clear, sagacious and ready with valuable suggestions; in action he is cool, prompt and intrepid. But ROSECRANS, if the stories of Rich Mountain may be trusted, is a maniac in battle—rides frantically, exclaims against everybody, strikes his officers with his sword, *and marches his regiments in column of companies against cannon.* And perhaps it needs no farther explanation of his animosity in the present instance than to say that he feels the sting of conscience respecting a former escape of FLOYD. At the battle of Carnifex Ferry, BENHAM led the van, and with much and bloody labor finally ascertained the true position of the entrenched enemy. When on the point of ordering an assault, (which, if successful, would have taken FLOYD and all his army,) he was suddenly ordered by ROSECRANS to fall back and wait for the morning! Reluctantly BENHAM obeyed, and during the night FLOYD escaped. Who was to blame then? Who was it that at Carnifex Ferry 'deserved to be cashiered for throwing away the only chance our army got to capture FLOYD'S forces entire?'"

THE PIRATE SUMTER.

THE CAPTURE OF THE BRIG JOSEPH PARK.

The following communication is from Capt. T. L. BRIGGS, of the brig *Joseph Park*, recently captured by the privateer *Sumter*:

On the 18th of September I sailed in the brig *Joseph Park*, from Pernambuco for Turks Island, Sept. 25. When in lat. 6° north, long. 42°, at 6 A. M., saw a sail steering the same course, (N. N. W.,) with a light breeze, from southward. At 7 A. M., saw she was a propeller, displaying the United States flag. Although suspicious of her true character, I could do nothing but keep on my course until ordered to heave to at 8 o'clock. I set my colors, the steamer being close by. Never having seen a true description of the *Sumter*, and having always heard she was the former *Star of the West*, which vessel I had seen and knew, my fears began to subside. As she hailed to know who and what we were, and I thought it was one of the steamers chartered by the United States Government, I immediately complied with the order to heave to, and she did not show her true colors until the officer who boarded me told me I was a prize to the Confederate steamer *Sumter*, and pointed to the flag just being run up. I was told to get my papers and go on board the *Sumter*. I was accompanied by him to my cabin, and had no opportunity to destroy any papers or the money, (165 sovereigns,) I had to buy a cargo of salt with. After carrying my papers on board the *Sumter*, I was allowed to return to my vessel for my clothes. Meanwhile she had been thoroughly searched by the officer on board, and all my instruments, charter party, &c., &c., were taken, and not returned to me. We were allowed to keep nothing but our clothes. On the 26th all the rigging, stores, &c., they wanted were taken and the brig set on fire. For several days we steered westward under sail, speaking several foreign vessels and representing the *Sumter* as a United States vessel. Oct. 27, the schooner *D. Trowbridge*, Capt. LYON, was captured under similar circumstances to my own. She was the only American vessel seen while I was on board. Nov. 9, Capt. LYON and myself were landed at Port Royal, and immediately went by steamer to the American consul at St. Pierre, where we arrived after dark and were very kindly received by Capt. JACKSON, of the brig *Crocus*. The men were not allowed to land by the Governor of the island until Monday, when the consul had agreed to receive and provide for them. Meanwhile they had induced three of my men to join the *Sumter's* crew. While on board the *Sumter* we were generally well treated; the crews had the liberty of the ship from 7 A. M. to 8 P. M., when they were sent to the berth-deck. Capt. LYON and myself were allowed to retire at our pleasure. We messed with the Warrant Officers, and were treated with every civility by them. Our crews were messed with theirs and shared equally. In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the following persons: Capt. JACKSON, of brig *Crocus*; Capt. AMESBURY, of schooner *E. J. Talbot*; Capt. SKALING, of British brig *Julia*; Capt. COPWELL, of British schooner *Emeline*; and Capt. SMITH, of British schooner *Mary Elizabeth*, for their kindness and assistance at St. Pierre. I am indebted to Capt. SKALING for his kind offers of a passage to New-York, and which I accepted. THOS. L. BRIGGS.

THE ESCAPE OF THE PIRATE SUMTER.

The Bermuda *Royal Gazette* of the 3d inst. has the following, relative to the escape of the pirate:

"On the morning of the 25th, the *Iroquois* astonished the St. Thomas folks by dropping into the harbor and reporting that, on a dark and squally night, the *Sumter* had slipped through the fingers of the *Dacotah* and *Iroquois*, and gone no one knew where.

The escape is variously accounted for. According to one account a French war steamer came out of St. Pierre during the night, and the *Iroquois* gave chase, and when daylight came the latter discovered his mistake, but meanwhile the *Sumter* had stolen away, and neither the *Dacotah* nor *Iroquois* could give any account of her."

GEN. BURNSIDE'S EXPEDITION.

PREPARATIONS FOR DEPARTURE.

The work on the various vessels that are to comprise, in part, Gen. BURNSIDE'S Expedition, is progressing with great rapidity. Within a few days four vessels have been put into commission at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, and will probably form a portion of the fleet. They are the gunboat *Winona*, carrying two thirty-two pounders, one eleven-inch columbiad, and one rifled Parrott gun; the gunboat *Chippewa*, mounting the same armament as the *Winona*; the steamer *Quaker City*, with eight thirty-two pounders and one rifled Parrott gun; and the schooner *Hope*, which will be used as a dispatch boat. Several gunboats have recently sailed from this port for Annapolis, and others are lying in the stream awaiting orders.

Among the vessels which have been recently fitted up, and which will doubtless be attached to the expedition, are the following:

Steamers *Cossack, Guide, Norwich, Victory, Lancer*; barks *Restless, Ora, Pursuit, Author*; brig *Onward*; schooners *Recruit, Highlander, Skirmisher, Dragon, Scout, Guerrilla, Grape Shot, Rocket, Vidette, Ranger, Grenade, Picket, Cadet*; barges *Zouave, Pioneer, Huzzar, Holly, Chasseur, Sentinel, Jackson.*

Besides the vessels already purchased, the Agents of the Government are negotiating for others, which will be transformed into gunboats and transports, and added to the fleet, the whole making a naval force of formidable magnitude.

BREAKING THE BLOCKADE.

Capt. CHASE, who came passenger from Havana in the schooner *A. B. Terry*, arrived yesterday morning, states: The schooner *Break of Day*, from New-Orleans, arrived at Havana Nov. 28, with a cargo of turpentine and rosin, flying the Confederate flag; and when the *City of Baltimore* (steamer) passed out with the American ensign flying at her mizzen peak, she dipped her ensign three times to the Confederate rag, and blew her whistle.

The officers of the *Break of Day* are: —— Martin, Captain; Charles Mall, Supercargo; Archibald Forsyth, Mate.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

No Dispatches Received from Minister Adams by the Hansa.

Another Appointment of Rebel Commissioners Rumored.

The Developments of the Johnson Court-Martial.

More Rebel Sympathizers in Franklin's Division.

The National Prisoners at Tortugas to be Returned to their Regiments.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 14.

USELESS APPLICATIONS.

The desk of the Secretary of the Treasury is covered with applications from patriots who desire to serve the country as commercial agents at Southern ports. As but one port is now open, they are permitted to wait.

There continues to be a rush of applications at the State Department for permission to go South. They are generally in behalf of ladies, but the same answer is given to all—that the order made with the concurrence of the Cabinet three weeks since, which provides that no passes shall be given by any department to persons going through our lines for the present, except exchanged prisoners, and persons on government business, is still strictly adhered to.

NO DISPATCHES FROM MR. ADAMS.

The Government has not yet received its dispatches from Mr. ADAMS in reference to the MASON and SLIDELL arrest.

MORE REBEL COMMISSIONERS.

Letters from the South, intercepted by the Government, state that two agents of the rebel Government, to proceed to England and France, have been appointed, and are to reach their destination by way of Tampico. One was stated to be BEVERLY TUCKER, BUCHANAN'S defaulting Consul to Liverpool.

DEVELOPMENTS OF THE JOHNSON COURT-MARTIAL.

A member of the Court-martial that tried JOHNSON says that it came out on the trial that there are five or six other soldiers in Gen. FRANKLIN'S Division who enlisted for the purpose of desertion to the rebels, and who are connected with female spies in Washington.

FIFTY CASES PUNISHABLE BY DEATH.

There are still nearly fifty soldiers in custody who have been convicted of offences the punishment of which, by the articles of war, is death. They are mostly cases of sleeping on post. Their fate is undecided.

INCREASED BUSINESS—THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

In consequence of the increased business of the War Department, Secretary CAMERON has given notice that he will receive Congressmen only between 10 and 12 o'clock A. M., and other visitors, between 12 and 2 P. M., except Wednesdays and Saturdays. After 2 o'clock, the Departments will be closed, except to officials of the other Departments.

TESTING THE STEVENS BATTERY.

It is understood that the Secretary of the Treasury was some time since requested by Mr. STEVENS, projector of the Stevens Battery, to provide $2,000 to build a target representing the side of the Battery, to be fired at by the heaviest ordnance, as the best means of definitely testing the expediency of finishing that work, and that the Secretary agreed to recommend the expenditure to Congress, if the Board appointed to examine the Battery should find it necessary. The time required to construct this target, for it is to be presumed that the Board have availed themselves of every means of forming a correct conclusion, is probably the reason why their report has not yet been made.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS.

This afternoon the camp of the Twenty-third Pennsylvania was the scene of a flag presentation by Speaker GROW, on behalf of Gov. CURTIN. Judge KELLY received the flag for the regiment. Swords were also presented to Capts, DILLEY, PALMER and WALLACE, by Congressman WRIGHT and Senator COWAN. A splendid dinner was then partaken of by officers and guests. Enthusiastic cheers were given for Gov. CURTIN and Col. BIDDLE, and the whole affair was a great success. Col. PULESTON, the military agent of Pennsylvania, who, on this occasion, introduced Mr. GROW, has received some thirty stand of colors from Gov. CURTIN for presentation to Pennsylvania regiments, which have not already received them.

PONTOON BRIDGE BUILDING.

Col. MCLEOD MURPHY'S Regiment to-day gave another successful exhibition of their skill in pontoon bridge building at Camp Alexander, just east of the Navy-yard. In one hour's time they constructed a bridge of over 400 feet in length on the Eastern Branch. Hon. GEORGE BANCROFT and Judge ROOSEVELT passed over on horseback, and returned. A file of soldiers were then ordered across on a double quick. A loaded four-horse wagon followed, and then a large crowd of distinguished citizens.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

A copy of the Norfolk *Day Book*, of the 12th, was received by the Government to-day. It advocates the further obstruction of the water approaches to that city, and enlarges upon the importance to the Yankees of its possession in a strategic point of view. It announces, without stating the authority, that fifty of the National prisoners at New-Orleans had taken the oath of allegiance and had joined the rebel army.

THE PRICE OF SALT IN CHARLESTON.

Salt is now selling at thirty dollars a sack in Charleston.

THE CHARLESTON FIRE.

Government has received a dispatch from Old Point, confirming the account of the great fire in Charleston.

A SHAM BATTLE.

This afternoon Gen. WADSWORTH'S Brigade, and that formerly commanded by Gen. KEYS, the two consisting of eight regiments of infantry and three companies of artillery, engaged in a sham battle near Munson's Hill. The engagement lasted two hours, and the firing was very heavy, alarming the town. The troops engaged gave evidence of great proficiency in field movements.

GEN. FREMONT'S OPINION OF GEN. HALLECK.

A member of the House from Pennsylvania states that immediately after the appointment of Gen. HALLECK to the Department of Missouri, Gen. FREMONT wrote to him, (the said member,) saying that this was the wisest and best appointment the President had made.

THE MUTINEERS OF THE NEW-YORK SEVENTY-NINTH.

An order is to be issued by Gen. MCCLELLAN, permitting the mutineers of the New-York Seventy-ninth Regiment, who have been for several months at the Dry Tortugas, to be transferred to Port Royal to rejoin their regiment, and again bear arms. The same course will probably be pursued in reference to the mutineers of the New-York Thirteenth, Maine, and the other regiments now laboring at the Tortugas.

THE PROPOSED BANKRUPT LAW.

Nothing definite is agreed upon in reference to the proposed Bankrupt act. On account of the varied interests involved in the decision, the Committee propose to receive memorials and statements representing the different interests.

MR. ELLET'S PAMPHLET.

Mr. ELLET'S pamphlet, alleging mismanagement of the Army of the Potomac, is being quietly suppressed. Even Members of Congress find it difficult to procure a copy.

THE CLAIMS AGAINST NEW-GRANADA.

Judge UPHAM, to-day, gave his decision, in the question raised in the case of the claims against New-Granada, to the effect that that Government, by the treaty, admits her liability for losses sustained in the Panama Riots. So far as the Panama claims are concerned, the commission are merely to assess damages.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

THE GREAT CITY OF THE REPUBLIC—THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS—THE WAR AND SLAVERY QUESTIONS, ETC.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 12, 1861.

Washington is at last, as it should be, the great city of the Republic. The focus whence radiate the orders and expenditures which control and sustain an army of six hundred thousand men, and a navy fast rising into proportionate magnitude—with a Congress in session, which serves as a theatre for the display of that grand stock company, each member of which is a resolute aspirant for a star engagement *now*, and a managership *hereafter*—it is noways strange that soldiers, politicians, contractors and supernumeraries should cause the city to overflow with a human inundation, and, while filling every crevice styled an "apartment," should bring discomfort to the circumstances of guests, and exceeding great joy to the hearts of lately desponding landlords. In short, Washington is full.

The latest "rise" in this great freshet—that caused by the meeting of Congress—was productive of very curious phenomena. The rush of waters was marked by a freightage of drift-wood and a tendency to foam around the edges, quickly followed by curious eddies of patriotic sentiment and emulative whirlpools of combative opinion. To mix the metaphor a little, it seemed as though the Legislative Department of the Government had, during the recess, become intensely jealous of the administrative, and was resolved to vindicate its supreme function, even at the cost of a row; and hence, not only did the huge leviathans celebrate the occasion by spouting majestic streams of resolutions, bills and notices, of the most radical sort, but the smaller fish, incapable of such displays, made invasions from their own element into the air, which gave us surprising ideas of their activity, and rendered the occasion infinitely amusing.

Seriously, Congress a little overshot the mark at the outset. Seemingly aware that the legislation of the special session had failed in some respects to meet the popular idea, and that *imbroglios* and complications—Fremont proclamations and Halleck orders, Cameron reports and Lincoln eliminations—had resulted partly from its own incertitude, the Legislature, having learned distinctly during the recess that the people are resolved upon such laws and such military strategy as shall end the war speedily, even though Slavery perish instantly in the contest, came back glowing with the noble fire of popular ambition, and each member determined to be the leader in some policy that should embody the public determination, and bear him on its wings toward that goal desired of all politicians. But this ardor was not destined to glow unchilled The President lives in Washington, and has about him a Cabinet of worthy gentlemen, each devoted to his country and the advancement of his own fortunes. The prestige, the patronage and the patriotism of such an Executive Department, backed by the army it has created, and disbursing two millions of dollars daily, is far from contemptible, even to members of Congress; and as it just now suits the Administration to play the *rôle* of conservatism, of course the two elements are in opposition, and their contact produces the violent effervescence we have witnessed, which is beginning already to cease with conservatism prevailing in the deposit it leaves, and prudence triumphing over principle in the policy to be adopted. In illustration, I will cite a speech, prepared with great care, for early delivery in one of the Houses, which, by really excellent logic, admirable rhetoric, and severe, but not vulgar, irony, was intended to vindicate the high principles of the present struggle, and squelch out the hybrid policy ruling at the other end of the avenue. This speech I had the pleasure to hear read, a few days since, in private; and I learn that already, before being given to the public, it has been emasculated in charity to the feelings of the President, and will go forth comparatively despoiled of its virtuous virus. This is not an isolated instance; and it will be seen that Congress, however gentlemen may inveigh, in public or private, against the conservative tendencies of the President, will take no action which that functionary does not approve and ratify.

Of the various plans proposed for the joint settlement of the war and Slavery questions, as they are mutually related, I have seen no mention in the papers of the project of creating another Lieutenant-General, to whom is to be committed the trifling task of defining and carrying out for the Government, a *policy* which shall be consistent with itself, and binding upon all the departments of the army. This plan has been a good deal canvassed amongst members friendly to Mr. LINCOLN and hostile to Slavery; and it was ventilated the other evening in the Congressional caucus. The name of Senator WADE was mentioned, I believe, in connection with the responsible position; but whether that gentleman is ambitious of the proposed exaltation, I am not informed.

It is said that there is to be an advance movement by our left wing, on Saturday next, supported by others of equal importance. Of course the public will believe the rumor if it chooses. For my own part, I do not think that Gen. MCCLELLAN intends to take the public into his confidence at all. *When* he moves, we shall all know it—the next day.

There is a great demand yet for generalships, and the Republicans find another cause of complaint against the President that he has mostly taken his Brigadiers, thus far, out of the Democratic Party. Whatever may be thought of the policy, I believe that the statement is true, that *nearly all* the Brigadiers—over a hundred—are Democrats. This is regarded as designed to keep in check the Anti-Slavery feeling of the army, and as a guarantee to the Pro-Slavery Unionists of the loyal Slave States. This much is certain, that 1864 is a magic number, and that all official eyes are riveted intensely upon it.

The weather for the past week has been like the finest days of a Northern Indian Summer; it is now colder, but still delightful. Certainly the soldiers have cause for gratitude, and can prepare for Winter quarters in a state of comparative comfort. W.

PURCHASED.

The ferry-boats *Hunchback* and *Southfield*, of Staten Island Ferry, have been sold to Government

THE FIGHT AT FORT PICKENS.

Official Report of Col. Harvey Brown.

The Part Taken in the Affair by Our War Vessels.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, FORT PICKENS, Nov. 25, 1861.

GENERAL: That Fort Pickens has been beleagured by the rebels for the last nine months, and that it was daily threatened with the fate of Sumter, is a fact notorious to the whole world. Since its occupancy by Lieut. SLEMMER the rebels have been surrounding it with batteries, and daily arming them with the heaviest and most efficient guns known to our service—guns stolen from the United States—until they considered this fort as virtually their own, its occupancy being only a question of time.

I have been in command since the 16th of April, and during the whole of that time their force has averaged, so far as I can learn, from eight to ten times the number of mine. The position in which I have thus been placed has been sufficiently trying, and I have at three separate times intended to free myself from it by opening my batteries on them, but imperious circumstances, over which I had no control, has unexpectedly in each instance prevented.

Affairs were in this state on the morning of the 9th of October, when the enemy fifteen hundred strong, attacked by surprise a portion of my command on an intensely dark night. They were defeated and driven from the Island, with great loss, by less than two hundred regulars and fifty volunteers—all the efficient force I had disposable for the purpose. An insult so gross to the flag of my country could not by me be passed unnoticed, and I designed immediately to take appropriate notice of it; but, as I said before, circumstances over which I had no control prevented. I make these prefatory remarks to explain why I have now opened my batteries on the enemy, when, from the smallness of my forces—about one-sixth of his, eighteen hundred to eight thousand—I have not the means of producing any decisive results, and as evidence of my having accomplished what I designed—the punishing the perpetrators of an insult to my my country's flag.

Having invited Flag-Officer McKEAN to coöperate with me in attacking the rebels, and to which he gave a ready and cordial assent, I, on the morning of the 22d, opened my batteries on the enemy, to which, in the course of half an hour, he responded from his numerous forts and batteries extending from the Navy-yard to Fort McRae, a distance of about four miles, the whole nearly equi-distant from this fort, and on which line he has two forts—McRae and Barrancas—and fourteen separate batteries, containing from one to four guns, many of them being ten-inch columbiads, and some twelve and thirteen-inch sea coast mortars, the distance varying from two thousand one hundred to two thousand nine hundred yards from this fort. At the same time of my opening, Flag-officer McKEAN, in the *Niagara*, and Capt. ELLISON, in the *Richmond*, took position as near to Fort McRae as the depth of water would permit, but which, unfortunately, was not sufficiently deep to give full effect to their powerful batteries. They, however, kept up a spirited fire on the fort and adjacent batteries during the whole day, My fire was incessant from the time of opening until it was too dark to see, at the rate of a shot for each gun every fifteen or twenty minutes, the fire of the enemy being somewhat slower. By noon the guns of Fort McRae were all silenced but one, and three hours before sunset this fort and the adjoining battery ceased fire. I directed the guns of batteries Lincoln, Cameron and Totten principally on the batteries adjacent to the Navy-yard, those of battery Scott to Fort McRae and the lighthouse batteries, and those of the Fort to all. We reduced very perceptibly the fire of Barrancas, entirely silenced that in the Navy-yard, and in one or two of the other batteries, the efficiency of our fire, at the close of the day, not being the least impaired.

The next morning I again opened about the same hour, the navy, unfortunately, owing to a reduction in the depth of water, caused by a change of wind, not being able to get so near as yesterday, consequently the distance was too great to be effectual. My fire this day was less rapid, and, I think, more efficient than that of yesterday. Fort McRae, so effectually silenced yesterday, did not fire again to-day. We silenced entirely one or two guns, and had one of ours disabled by a shot coming through the embrasure.

About 3 o'clock fire was communicated to one of the houses in Warrington, and shortly afterwards to the church steeple, the church and the whole village being immediately in rear of some of the rebel batteries, they apparently having placed them purposely directly in front of the largest and most valuable buildings. The fire rapidly communicated to other buildings along the street until probably two-thirds of it was consumed; and about the same time fire was discovered issuing from the back part of the Navy-yard, probably in Wolcott, a village to the north and immediately adjoining the yard, as Warrington does on the west. Finally it penetrated to the yard, and as it continued to burn brightly all night, I concluded that either in it or in Wolcott many buildings were destroyed. Very heavy damage was also done to the buildings of the yard by the avalanche of shot, shell, and splinters showered unceasingly on them for two days, and being nearly fire-proof, being built of brick and covered with slate, I could not succeed in firing them, my hot shot nor shells not having any power of igniting them.

The steamer *Time*, which was at the wharf at the time, was abandoned on the first day and exposed to our fire, which probably entirely disabled her. The fire was again continued till dark, and with mortars occasionally until 2 o'clock the next morning, when the combat ceased.

This fort, at its conclusion, though it has received a great many shot and shell, is, in every respect, save the disabling of one gun-carriage, and the loss of service of six men, as efficient as it was at the commencement of the combat; but the ends I proposed in commencing having been attained, except one, which I find to be impracticable with my present means, I do not deem it advisable further to continue it unless the enemy think it proper to do so, when I shall meet him with alacrity.

The attack on BILLY WILSON'S camp, the attempted attack on my batteries and the insult to our glorious flag have been fully and fearfully avenged. I have no means of knowing the loss of the enemy, and have no disposition to guess at it. The firing on his batteries was very heavy, well-directed and continuous for two days, and could hardly fail of having important results.

Our loss would have been heavy but for the foresight which, with great labor, caused us to erect elaborate means of protection, and which saved many lives. I lost one private killed, one sergeant, one corporal and four men (privates) wounded, only one severely.

My officers, non-commissioned officers and privates were everything I could desire. They one and all performed their duty with the greatest cheerfulness, and in the most able and efficient manner. I am much indebted to Major ARNOLD, my executive officer, for his valuable assistance—his whole conduct was admirable; and Capts. Allen, Chalfin, Blunt, Robertson, Hildt and Duryea, and Lieuts. McFarland, Langdon, Clossin, Shiply, Jackson, Pennington, Seeley and Taylor, merit my warmest encomiums for the coolness and deliberation with which they performed, without one exception, their duty under a heavy and continuous shower of shot, shells and splinters for two successive days. Lieut. TODD, ordnance-officer, had full supplies of all required articles, which were on hand at the post, and his department was conducted with system and efficiency. Maj. TOWER, Surgeon CAMPBELL and Assistant-Surgeon SUTHERLAND, in their respective duties, sustained their high reputation. Captains ROBERTSON, DURYEA and BLUNT, and Lieutenants PENNINGTON and SEELEY, respectively, commanded batteries Lincoln, Scott, Totten and Cameron, and a small battery at Spanish Fort, and the other officers' batteries in the fort, with distinguished ability. Captain's DOBIE'S and BAILEY'S companies were with the batteries at Lincoln and Cameron, and did their duty faithfully and efficiently. The companies of Captains HEUBERER and DUFFY, of the Sixth Regiment New-York Volunteers were successively on duty at the fort, and rendered cheerfully important assistance to me. The regular companies engaged at the batteries, all of whom performed their duty so efficiently as to preclude my making a distinction, are companies A, F, and L, First Artillery; C, H, and K, Second Artillery; and C and E, Third Infantry, and companies G and I, Sixth Regiment, New-York Volunteers.

In closing, I tender to Flag-Officer McKEAN and Capt. ELLISON, of the navy, and to their officers and crews, my best thanks for their coöperation, which would have had the happiest results, but for the unfortunate fact that great draft of water prevented their sufficiently near approach to the works of the rebels.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant, HARVEY BROWN, Col. Commanding.

Brig.-Gen. L. THOMAS, Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

COL. BROWN'S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT—IMPORTANT CONCLUSIONS.

In a supplementary report Col. BROWN says:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, FORT PICKENS, Nov. 25, 1861.

GENERAL: The bombardment of the 22d and 23d has elicited some facts that are of importance, and I notice them that we may in future benefit by them.

First—That with the most efficient guns of the largest calibre and served in the best manner, no serious injury can be done to stone or brick walls, or to guns in sand batteries, or to troops serving them, unless probably by rifled guns, if properly protected, at a distance of from two thousand to three thousand yards.

Second—That shell and hot shot are not to be depended on for firing even wooden buildings, unless having in them incendiary composition

Third—That pieces of port fire are nearly useless as such incendiary composition.

Fourth—That brick buildings covered with slate cannot be fired by either hot shot or shells at the distance named, unless by accident, unless the shells have rock fires.

Fifth—That the trouble and expense incurred in protecting forts by sand bag traverses, &c., is far more than repaid by the saving of the lives of the defenders.

Sixth—That no dependence is to be placed on JAMES' rifle projectiles, either as it respects accuracy or range. If I had had guns to be depended on, I could have silenced the most of the enemy's sand batteries and the guns in Barrancas.

Seventh—That ships with their present armament cannot for an hour contend against rifled guns, and that if our navy is not at once supplied liberally with good rifled guns it will be very likely to be disgraced.

Eighth—That on service here, and I believe the remark applies with equal force to every river and harbor in the Gulf, a gunboat drawing six feet water and well-armed with good rifled guns can do more and better service than a forty-gun ship, or than such ships as the *Niagara* and *Richmond*.

Ninth—That sail vessels are utterly useless in enforcing a blockade.

Tenth—That PARROTT'S rifled guns are efficient, and that forts should be immediately supplied with them, and with a full supply of ammunition.

I would strongly urge that a dozen of PARROTT'S 32-pounders, or, if to be had of larger calibre, be sent to this post, with a good supply of ammunition, as early as possible. I had one which I found to be excellent, but when the navy met with such a mishap in the Mississippi, I was compelled to let Flag-Officer McKEAN have it, and one of my 12-pounder Parrott guns, to put on one of his ships, to save them from being driven out of the waters by a little steamer having a rifled gun on board.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant, HARVEY BROWN, Colonel Commanding.

Brig.-Gen. L. THOMAS, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. A., Washington, D. C.

LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF THE NIAGARA.

From the Providence Evening Press, Dec. 12.

On Wednesday, the 20th, it became pretty generally known among us that the Flag-officer had made up his mind to commence the bombardment of Pensacola, providing that Col. BROWN was ready, and as we knew that the Colonel only waited for the Flag's action, we felt pretty certain that the ball would be opened at once. I need not tell you that all hands were up to "concert pitch," and as eager to commence, as you at the North have been anxious to have us, and although we felt sure that some formidable masked batteries would disclose themselves, we were ready to find out where they were, and try the effect of our 11-inch guns in silencing them.

The object was to destroy the Navy-yard, so as to put a stop to their use of Government property and tools in building any more extensive means of defence, and to batter down some of their fortifications. Orders were given to our engineers to place bags filled with coal around such portions of the machinery as were exposed to shot, and nearly all the work was done which is necessary to "prepare ship for action."

Early on the morning of the 21st, the Flag-Officer went on shore to confer with Col. BROWN in regard to preliminaries. At 12 o'clock he returned, and then we received orders to complete all necessary arrangements. Orders were dispatched to the *Richmond* and *Montgomery*, then in port, giving them directions how to act, and the word was passed that we should move in at daylight, so as to engage Fort McRae, the water-battery, and the sand-battery just in front of McRae, all three of which could bring their guns to bear upon either Fort Pickens or the shipping.

We could form no idea of the strength of these places, but it was highly important that we should draw their fire, as they enfiladed the parapet guns of Pickens. It had been arranged that as soon as their steamers came down from Pensacola to the Navy-yard, the fort was to open fire upon them, so as to sink them if possible, and cut off all means of bringing down reinforcements from the town, and the first gun from the fort was to be the signal for us to move in and open fire. Orders were passed to have sufficient food for the day cooked before 8 o'clock in the morning, and at a late hour we turned in to dream of terrible battles and hair-breadth escapes.

OPENING OF THE ENGAGEMENT.

By sunrise, on the morning of the 22d, we were all ready. Our boats had been hoisted out and moored alongside, shot and shell got up, and steam all ready to move in at short notice. The usual morning prayer was offered up, the chaplain imploring a blessing upon the events of the day, after which the Flag-Officer addressed a few words to the men in his usual clear, quick, come-to-the-point manner. He urged upon them strict obedience to all orders, coolness, judgment and precision in firing." The answer was three hearty cheers.

About half-past nine we could see the steamers coming down to the Navy-yard, little suspecting that their doom was sealed. In a very short time they were fast to the dock, and at just twelve minutes to ten we saw a smoke issue from Fort Pickens, and heard the booming of the gun. A cheer burst forth from our men, and if ever a ship's anchor came up lively, it was ours then.

In order to bring our guns within range, it was necessary for us to run into very shoal water, and consequently it required the utmost caution in working the ship. Even with a perfectly smooth sea, there would be only twenty inches of water under our keel, and if it should begin to blow, or a heavy swell set in, it was necessary for us to have the ship in such a position that we could easily run into deeper water.

While working our way in, the *Richmond* came up under our stern, and as she draws less water than we do, the Commodore ordered her to go in and open fire as soon as she was within range. She passed by us, took a position nearer to the land and opened fire. Meantime, the water battery and Fort McRae were doing their best to frighten us, by throwing shot that fell about a mile short. We kept on steadily until we thought that we were within range and then came to anchor.

THE ACTION.

Our first shot was from the 84-pound rifle, and it told with very good effect. The next was from a 11-inch gun, but it fell short. A few more were fired, but with much the same result. Finding that we were too far off, a boat was sent out in charge of the master, in order to sound, and having found that we could get in somewhat closer without the water shoaling much more, we hove up anchor, and ran in about one-fourth of a mile further. During the time that our boat was out sounding several of their shots came very near it, but, fortunately, none hit.

We now again opened fire from our broadside guns, and this time to some purpose. Almost every shot told, and there must have been a fearful scattering of pieces, as our shell exploded over their heads. I do not think there was ever any target practice in the navy that can show such a record of effective shots. The rebels were constantly throwing shot at us, and seemed to be either increasing the charge of powder, or else getting more elevation, for their shot gradually came nearer, though it was not until late in the afternoon that we were struck.

By 12 o'clock, both the *Richmond* and *Niagara*, together with the guns bearing from Fort Pickens and Battery Scott, were all playing into Fort McRae and its surrounding batteries. We averaged one shell every three minutes, and as the *Richmond* had more guns, though smaller, and more than our number of guns were being served from Santa Rosa, there was about two shell each minute, being fired at this point.

About 1 o'clock a firing commenced from a masked battery which disclosed itself in the woods along the shore, and about a mile south of McRae. They seemed to have a particular spite against us, by the pertinacity with which they fired at us; but, finding that they could not reach us, they turned their attention to the *Richmond*, which was nearer in shore. Many of their shot came very close to the latter, and, had they been well directed, would have done a great deal of damage. Only one took effect, however, and I regret to record that this killed one man and wounded seven. The man killed was captain of the gun, and was in the act of taking aim when struck. The wounded were but slighly hurt. The battery of the *Richmond* was now brought to bear upon the hidden rebels, but I do not think it did much execution, as most of her shot were seen to fall short. About 5 o'clock she hauled out.

At 2 o'clock a shell from one of our guns set fire to a frame house in the rear of Fort McRea, and much of the time the fort has been enveloped in a cloud of smoke. Soon after this fire broke out, their flagstaff was shot away, and the symbol of treachery came down by the run. Subsequently it was raised again.

About 3 o'clock one or two shots passed over us and dropped into the water, and by the note which they sang as they passed, we knew that they had turned some heavier metal upon us. Two or three of our guns were directed to the spot whence the smoke was seen to issue, and if they treated us to music, we returned the compliment with interest. They succeeded in planting two shots in our sides, making rather ugly holes, and upsetting things in one of the Lieutenant's rooms. By 6 o'clock we must have dismounted the gun, for at that time McRea ceased firing altogether, and for one hour and a-half we tumbled shell after shell inside of her walls, without any response. We could hardly believe that we had silenced them so soon, but thought that they must be at work in preparing some larger gun for our benefit.

We ceased firing at 5:30, it having become too dark to get good aim. Our whole number of shell fired was one hundred and eighty; of these, forty-three were filled with sand, an expedient sometimes used in breaching a wall. The shots which struck us proved to be from an eight-inch columbiad. At six o'clock we got up anchor and steamed out to a safer anchorage, and then all hands began to find out that they were very tired and hungry. All begrimmed and black with powder, our nostrils filled with smoke, and heads nearly splitting from so much noise, we were glad enough to go below, and take a little rest, as well as to try the effects a little supper.

Our men have done nobly; too much cannot be said in their praise. When the rebel shots would come near us, they would grumble out a howl of derision, and when each shot was fired in return, it seemed as though every man of that particular gun's crew would shut his teeth in defiance, and his look fairly expressed, "take that you cowardly skunks." The most of our crew are old man-o'-war's men, and were considered as "picked crew" at the time the ship was commissioned to go to Japan, and at that time sailors were plenty. It is of no kind of use for an officer to attempt to teach these men how to shoot. Just give them both a gun, and the man will beat the officer so badly that he will be very glad to resign.

After we had become well engaged in the fight, we hardly thought of or had time to look at Fort Pickens. Once in a while, I would cast a glance that way, and I could see that the semicircle of batteries around her were keeping up a constant explosion of shell over her loyal walls; while from out her sides came a steady stream of white smoke, and I could see that the shots took good effect. We had already made two good holes in McRea, and Pickens had knocked a hole that a horse and cart might enter in.

SECOND DAY.

A letter, dated November 23, says: "As I commence to write, to-night, the whole sky is illuminated by the burning of the town of Warrington, and the Navy-yard. The former has been burning since 2 P. M., but the latter has just taken fire. The sight is grand, sublime, anything you choose to call it, only we are too tired to look at it. The forts and batteries have just ceased firing. Fort Pickens must have fired over one thousand shot and shell to-day.

All hands were on deck this morning as soon as it was light, and in the best spirits, notwithstanding the change in the temperature. During the night there came up a heavy rain-storm, and the wind shifted from the southwest to the northwest, and now overcoats are quite comfortable to us who have lived so long in the tropics. The wind blew quite fresh, and as it was off shore, we feared that it would blow the water seaward, so as to render it impossible for us to get our position of yesterday. Boats were sent in to sound, and we found we could get there, but there would only be ten inches of water under us. As the sea was very smooth, we determined to try it.

About sunrise we saw a large body of men leave Fort McRae and go toward the Navy-yard, and we conjectured from the looks of the batteries that they were a "relief," who had been at work during the night. When our boat returned, the officer reported that he could see a new battery in the woods, and that higher embankments had been thrown up in front of the others.

All hands had a good warm breakfast, and at 9 o'clock we went to prayers. At 9:30 signals were made to Fort Pickens, and at 10 we weighed anchor and steamed in nearly to our position. The *Richmond* did not go in at all, as the flag officer did not think her shot took sufficient effect to pay for being badly cut up. As soon as we approached, the new battery in the wood disclosed itself, and although it burst shell very near us, it could not do us much harm. The other battery in the wood now consists of two pieces. Fort Pickens opened fire a little after 10. We came to anchor at 10:40, and fired the first gun at 10:45. At this time all the batteries were hard at work. There were between forty and fifty guns playing into Fort Pickens. As we expected, masked batteries had disclosed themselves all along the beach.

Our firing was very slow, owing to our inability to reach them, except with the rifled gun. The wind, which was very strong, was directly against us, and very much in favor of the rebels. The charges of powder were increased from fifteen to seventeen pounds, and still our shots fell short. About a dozen of their shells have exploded quite near enough for comfort. The men seem to have taken matters quite coolly to-day. The Commodore, in his address this morning, told them he did not want so many lookers-on to be on deck. Said he, "One watch go below and sleep, and be ready to relieve the other when wanted."

As I passed along the berth-deck, I saw many of them stretched out, fast asleep, and not a few playing backgammon and checkers. Finding that all our shots fell short, we weighed anchor at 2:30, and moved in a little closer. Hardly had we dropped it before a shot went whizzing in between our smoke-pipes, and dropped in the water half a mile the other side of us Immediately there came another, and then another, and while they came over us, thick and fast, our guns returned the compliment. But it was no use; our shot all fell short. The wind was too strong, and our ship was dangerously near the bottom.

The charges of powder were increased to twenty pounds, five more than the regular charge, and finding that that did us no good, we weighed anchor and stood out. Even after we had moved out a long distance, several of the shots of this new gun came directly over our quarter. It could have been no other than a 10-inch columbiad, or else one of the rifled 120-pounders, said to have been brought over by the *Bermuda*. One of our men says he could hear it say: "Secesh-secesh-secesh, sechong," as it landed in the water. Had one of the secesh villains hit us, it would have bored us through and through.

We got out of their reach at last, and then we had the satisfaction of watching the grand conflagration. If the wind changes, and we can get in, we shall give them an opportunity to try their guns again on Monday. We have fired about seventy-five shells to-day. No one has been hurt on our ship. News has come from Fort Pickens, and we learn that they are in excellent spirits. That rebel friend of ours was turned upon the fort, and managed to partially dismount a 10-inch gun, wounding six men, one of whom is fatally injured. No other casualties. The gun was soon remounted. Col. BROWN says he shall not open fire to-morrow unless they first fire upon him, so that it is altogether likely the Sabbath will indeed be a day of rest. Some may think it foolishness, but I do not believe we shall lose anything.

A letter, dated Nov. 25, says:

"During Saturday and Sunday nights we could see the camp-fires of two or three parties on shore, who are doubtless engaged in erecting batteries for our reception, but I do not think it is the Commodore's intention to engage them. They have strewed their fortifications all along the beach, and contain only one or two guns in each, while at the same time they are protected by the woods. To silence such fellows, it is necessary to have a ship for each one, and even then I doubt if it could be accomplished. It requires a landing party, and a force sufficient to take possession of the whole place."

The *Richmond* received a serious damage in the action of Friday, although at the time it was not considered to be much. A shot struck her just about the water line, and penetrated the side, landing in one of the Purser's store-rooms. Yesterday she gained three feet of water, notwithstanding the steam-pumps were kept in operation constantly. It will be necessary to send her to Key West, and as she goes to-day, I hasten to send you this letter, in hopes it may reach you at an early date.

I question whether Col. BROWN will attempt to do much more. He has effected his purpose—that of destroying the Winter quarters of the rebels, and although they succeeded in putting out the fire in the Navy-yard, he has shown them that it will be a very unsafe operation to commence work there again, as he can and will set fire to it again, if they make the attempt.

A sad accident happened at Fort Pickens this morning. As some of the men were removing the "fuses" and emptying the powder from the shells that fell inside the fort and did not explode, a spark of fire from the chisel used in removing the fuse caused one of the shells to explode, killing five men and wounding two.

CAPT. ROBINSON'S OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE AFFAIR NEAR WILLIAMSPORT.

HEADQUARTERS CO. D, FIRST REG. VA. BRIGADE, U. S. VOLUNTEERS, FOUR LOCKS, NEAR WILLIAMSPORT, Md., Dec. 9, 1861.

Col. S. H. Leonard, Commanding Williamsport and Vicinity, Md.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on Friday afternoon, the 6th inst., my pickets at Dam No. 5 and Back Creek were fired on by the enemy, by cavalry at the former place, and infantry at the latter. The Sergeants in charge of each of those pickets immediately communicated with me here, and I dispatched reinforcements to both places; but after some shots had been exchanged all remained quiet during the remainder of that day and night. The Sergeant at Dam No. 5 reported three wounded on the side of the enemy, but none of our men were hurt at either place.

On Saturday afternoon, about 3½ P. M., I was apprised of the advance of the enemy in strong force in the direction of Dam No. 5. I immediately took my second Lieutenant and 20 men of my command toward the Dam, and sent my first Lieutenant with 10 men to Fankell's Ferry, that point being opposite and in close approximation to the road leading from Little Georgetown to the Dam. The enemy perceived this party and at once opened fire on them; he returned the fire, and he believes with effect. Before I could arrive with my party at the Dam, rifle-shots had already been fired there, and within a short distance of the Dam myself and party were fired on with shot and shell from rifled cannon. The enemy ceased their fire at the Dam, and kept up an incessant fire at us until dark, bringing all their guns to bear on us, the number being six; their firing was very regular and accurate, and although none of my party were hurt, there were many narrow escapes. Under cover of the darkness, I succeeded in reinforcing the picket, and on my return to headquarters also dispatched what available men I had left, as a reinforcement to my first Lieutenant at Fankell's Ferry, at which place an incessant firing on the enemy's side, from rifles, was kept up all night, and answered by us with musketry, which appeared to be unheeded by them, although my Lieutenant reports seeing several fall—until I obtained from the reinforcement sent to the Dam by you a squad of six men armed with the Enfield rifle, the sound of which they seemed to fear. At the Dam musketry firing recommenced about 9 P. M., on the part of the enemy, the object of which seemed to be to cover a party endeavoring to destroy the wooden cribs of that work, as we could plainly hear the noise made in endeavoring to effect this. We opened fire on them, and the firing was kept up on both sides, until about two o'clock in the morning, shortly after which the reinforcement sent me by you arrived. Nothing further was done until daylight, when the enemy commenced throwing shot and shell across the Dam, and also at Fankell's Ferry—their object at the latter place, in particular, appearing to be the destruction of property. At Dam No. 5 they succeeded in setting fire to and destroying a barn. Firing at each of the above places was kept up all day, with little intermission on both sides. I am happy to be able to state that none of my company were wounded, although one man of the Massachusetts regiment was severely so. I have great pleasure in speaking well of the prompt action and willingness on the part of some of the Union men in this vicinity in rendering me all the assistance they could, not only in showing me the best points for cover for some of my small party, but also in handling the musket with them. I have learnt, from reliable information, that the enemy's *known* loss in killed and wounded amounted to 12—7 at the dam and 5 at Fankell's Ferry; but I believe it to have been heavier. Two of their cannon burst, and one was rendered unserviceable by the breaking of the axle of the gun-carriage. Also, that their total force was about 1,500 strong. From what shot and shell we have picked up, their guns appear to be of the latest improved pattern. The enemy appear to have left this district, with the exception of some few pickets, as nothing is observable of them in force from Fankell's Ferry or the Dam, at which place they left behind them a considerable quantity of intrenching tools. I have the honor, &c., (Signed,) GILBERT ROBINSON, Captain Commanding Post.

—Prof. TORRY, Senior Professor of the University of Vermont, at Burlington, has been chosen acting President of that College, in place of President PEASE, resigned.

THE WAR IN THE WEST.

AFFAIRS IN MISSOURI.

REFUGEES FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

Of the refugees from the district surrendered to the depredations of PRICE, the St. Louis *Democrat*, says:

"Between five and six hundred of these people have crossed the river to Illinois, intending to locate at various points and procure a subsistence as they can, until permitted, through the success of the Union arms, to return to their homes. Many, however, have been made hopelessly indigent, and may never revisit the scenes of ther former thrift and happiness. Others will find nothing of all their property except their land, desolated with the charred ruins of the dwellings they had fondly reared. Merchants have been robbed of their entire stock in trade; farmers of their cattle and stores, and mechanics of their tools. The exodus was made in such haste as left no time for the sufferers to take more, if otherwise able to do so, than indispensable provisions and clothes, while numbers found it impossible to effect even this.

From Rolla we learn that above one thousand of the fugitives are now *en route* for St. Louis, the most of them having passed that point. There will, therefore, be abundant work for the Sanitary Commission in ministering to their necessities. Very few are disposed to remain in St. Louis, the men being of that hardy and industrious class who have full faith in their ability to 'rough it,' and support their families by some kind of sturdy toil in a Free State during the Winter. While passing through the city, all the needy among them will be inquired after and attended to. Those who require quarters here will find them without trouble. Provost-Marshal LEIGHTON had taken preliminary steps with the view of selecting for the sufferers capable hosts from among the secession worthies of our city. Whenever the gentlemen of the Commission desire quarters for the refugees from traitor intolerance, good accommodations will be promptly found beneath the roofs of traitor citizens.

Some six hundred dollars worth of clothing, blankets, &c., belonging to exchanged 'Camp Jackson prisoners,' has been justly confiscated, and assigned for distribution among the Southern refugees. These goods had been assiduously gathered by H. B. BELT, to be by him forwarded to their respective claimants in the lines of the enemy. The work of accumulating was permitted to progress until the day preceding that of the contemplated shipment. Much joy was thus allowed to enliven the spirits of secession circles, and great magnanimity was displayed in the gathering of valuable contributions for the aid and comfort of traitor friends among the rebels. There was, therefore, bitter disappointment and curses less loud than deep, when a file of soldiers appeared at BELT'S depôt, in the Churchill building, and removed the precious baggage *en masse* to the Provost-Marshal's office. That functionary considerately permitted each of the rebel braves to retain his uniform and some articles of prime importance, but reserved the rest for the cause of the country. The property will very slightly compensate the victims of rebel tyranny in the Southwest for the losses and sufferings so mercilessly and needlessly inflicted upon them."

HOW THE REBELS IN MISSOURI ARE TREATED.

Although Gen. HUNTER'S sphere of usefulness was somewhat circumscribed by his transfer to the Department of Kansas, he seems disposed to show no mercy to the rebels still left within his reach. For weeks past, SI GORDON and a band of marauders have amused themselves by making raids into Kansas, plundering and maltreating all loyalists who happened to be beyond the protection of the National forces. These robbers have made Platte County, Missouri, their headquarters, and, on Dec. 2, Gen. HUNTER addressed a note, bearing upon the matter, to the Trustees of Platte City. The following is the essential portion of this epistle, which was quite as amiable in tone as was required by the circumstances of the case:

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS, FORT LEAVENWORTH, Dec. 2.

To the Trustees of Platte City, Platte County, Mo.:

GENTLEMEN: Having received reliable information of depredations and outrages of every kind, committed by a man named SI GORDON, a leader of rebel marauding bands, I give you notice that unless you seize and deliver the said GORDON to me at these headquarters, within ten days from this date, or drive him out of the county, I shall send a force to your city with orders *to reduce it to ashes, and to burn the house of every Secessionist in your county, and to carry away every negro.*

Col. JENNISON'S Regiment will be intrusted with the execution of this order.

Gen. HUNTER calls the attention of seventeen prominent rebels, whom he mentions by name, to the requirements of this note.

"Gen. BEN. M. PRENTISS took the people of St. Joseph, Mo., by surprise, the other day, by announcing his determination to swear them for the Union, and to put such as would not take the oath, to labor on the fortifications. On Thursday last he was as good as his word, and administered the obligation to 800 persons, in the following words:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, State of Missouri.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Missouri; that I will faithfully obey all the laws, both of the Federal and the State Governments; that I will not take up arms against the Government of the United States of America, or of the Provisional Government of the State of Missouri; that I will not aid or assist, abet, harbor, conceal or give information to, or in any manner whatever encourage the enemies either of the United States of America or of the Provisional Government of the State of Missouri; and that I will, in all respects, conduct myself as a loyal citizen both of the United States and of the Provisional Government o the State of Missouri; and I will do all in my pfwer as a citizen to discourage the present rebellion ao preserve the Federal Union. So help me God.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this —— day of ——, 186—.

——, Provost-Marshal.

In doubtful cases, two witnesses were required to become security that the oath would be kept. Those refusing to take it are set to work on an adjacent hill upon fortifications.

THE HOME GUARD IN MISSOURI.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS, Dec. 9, 1861.

1. The following letter having been brought to the notice of the Major-General commanding this Department, is published for the information of all concerned, viz:

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Oct. 25, 1861.

SIR: Information having been received that bodies of troops are being formed in and about St. Louis, Mo., which, under the names of Home Guards, Reserve Corps, and other appellations, are being mustered into the service of the United States for duty only in *limited localities*, or upon certain contingencies, you are hereby cautioned that such organizations are wholly without authority, and that no payment made to them will be sanctioned by the Government. I am, Sir, very respectfully, Your obedient servant,

[Signed] L. THOMAS, Adjt.-Gen.

To the Paymaster-General, Washington, D. C.

Officers appointed from these headquarters to muster troops, are authorized to muster or remuster into the service of the United States all such bodies of troops, for three years or during the war, unless sooner discharged, as directed by the act of Congress on the subject, provided their plan of organization conforms to the orders of the War Department, including in the muster or remuster so made, the period during which the bodies of troops above referred to have been in actual service.

2. All persons commissioned by Major-Gen. FREMONT, discharged under the second paragraph of General Orders, No. 304, dated Headquarters of the Army, Washington, Nov. 12, 1861, and whose names are not included in the lists furnished to the Chief of the Pay Department, in compliance with instructions from the Secretary of War, dated Nov. 25, 1861, will refer their claims for payment to the Adjutant-General at Washington, the Commanding General of this Department not being authorized to act upon such claims.

By order of Major-Gen. HALLECK. JNO. C. KELTON, A. A. G.

FROM WESTERN MISSOURI.

From the St. Louis Evening News, Dec. 8.

By a gentleman who left Sedalia yesterday, we learn that PRICE had moved from Osceola to a point five miles distant, with a portion of his force, and made that place his headquarters. RAINS remained at Osceola, and was in command of that place. On Monday last a train of fifty wagons passed from Lexington, between Warrensburgh and Sedalia, to PRICE'S army. They were laden with supplies, and encountered no molestation.

There are four rebel recruiting offices in Lexington, opened for the purpose of enlisting recruits for PRICE. JOHN BOWMAN, the Clerk of the Circuit Court at that place, is engaged in raising a regiment to join the rebels.

A fine mail-coach, together with four good horses, plying between Sedalia and Pleasant Hill, *vid* Independence, was seized and taken off by the rebels under HAYS, a few days ago, between Independence and Pleasant Hill.

A body of 1,500 horse was sent out from Sedalia, a few days ago, to attack a camp of 1,000 rebels located on Blackwater Creek; but, on arriving at the spot, the camp was found broken up—the rebels having received notice of their approach.

GEN. PRICE'S ARMY.

Gen. PRICE'S army are on their way North, and will reach the Missouri River in a few days. The army has greatly swelled in numbers since it left Lexington, and their supply of arms, cannon, &c., has been greatly multiplied. Indeed, the army is well clothed and well appointed in all particulars.—*Liberty (Mo.) Tribune, Nov. 29.*

There is a paper published occasionally in Gen. PRICE'S ragged army, called the *Army Argus*. The following is from the issue dated the 26th of last month:

OUR SUPPLIES.—The army of Missouri is now well supplied with clothing and blankets, not to speak of guns and ordnance in abundance.

THE INDIAN REGIMENTS.—The six regiments of Indians, for service in this section, are a fine-looking, heavy built set of men. They are desperate warriors, and true Southerners, and express great anxiety to meet the Lincoln forces. In fact they are "spiling for a fight."

One regiment of 945 are armed exclusively with bows and arrows, scalping knives and tomahawks. Whenever the great battle is fought, if every one of them does not grace his hut with atleast one Federal scalp, then we are deceived.

We called to see our young friend DAVID R. ATCHISON, Jr., nephew of Gen. D. R. ATCHISON, a few days since. We found him in fine spirits. He was seriously wounded at Carthage, on the 5th of July last, in the right shoulder by a grape shot, from which he has suffered very much, but we are pleased to say he is fast recovering, and we hope in a few weeks to see him again with the army, which he says he greatly desires, as he wishes to kill a Dutchman for every day he suffered by the wound.

Fort Scott was burned on the 11th inst., by Col. WAITT, in command of the Indian regiments; sixty of the enemy killed, with only three men on our side. Our men captured 600 stand of arms and a large amount of property.

ANOTHER PROCLAMATION FROM PRICE.

To the Army of Missouri:

SOLDIERS: Many of you have been with me from the beginning. Together we have borne the burden and heat of the day. Together we have endured fatigue and hunger and thirst. Together we have faced the foe and fought the battles for freedom which history will record, and our beloved Missouri will not fail to remember with approbation. We have never met the enemies of our country on the field of of battle but to vanquish and put them to flight. The time of trial and suffering, we have reason to believe, will terminate before many months, unless we lose by impatience what we have gained by toil and conflict.

The time for which some of you have enlisted begins to expire during the present and ensuing months. I promise you, up the word of a soldier, when that time expires, and as it expires, you shall receive honorable discharges from service, and be permitted to visit your homes, if that be practicable with a foe still in the country. Your places in the ranks will be filled, I doubt not, by heavy reinforcements. But I address you now to request that you remain with the army, if that be possible, until we are in circumstances to receive the reinforcements to which I have referred.

We go where our wants can be and WILL BE supplied. We go where our hearts and our treasures lead us, no more, I trust, to retrace our steps.

My brave men, stand by me but a little space, and let us secure what we have won by the sacrifices we have made. I desire to command no braver men than you. My conquering, veteran soldiers! let patience and self-sacrifice be your watchwords a little longer, and the field is ours, and our country is redeemed from the oppressions of despotism.

The motives and reasons for retaining in the army all the arms which belong either to the State or to individuals, are founded upon the highest public necessity, the State and the success of our army. These reasons will be satisfactory to you when understand them.

With entire confidence in your courage and patriotism, and with an affectionate interest in all that concerns your welfare, I submit these suggestions for your consideration.

Let us stand by our glorious flag until it waves in triumph over the fair fields of our inheritance.

STERLING PRICE, Maj.-Gen. Com'g.

EXPERIENCES UNDER A FLAG OF TRUCE.

A correspondent of the St. Louis *Republican*, who went down the Mississippi under the flag of truce which recovered Col. DOUGHERTY, gives the following description of some of the celebrities with whom he met:

"Gen. CHEATHAM came on board the *Scott*, also Gen. MCCOWN, and both were soon engaged with Gen. GRANT, in conversation on the matter at issue. And a word here in regard to the conduct of the latter. During these interviews, when matched against the wiliest and most noted of the rebel leaders, Gen. GRANT'S deportment was eminently proper for the occasion, being dignified yet courteous, and such as the people would like in their commander. I mention this particularly, because in some instances where representat

Dorchester County. 2d. Capt. Edmund O'Brien, of Carroll County. 3d. Lieut. Alexander Cross, of Baltimore City. 4th. Major E. R. Dorsey, of Baltimore City. 5th. Lieut.-Col. Bradley T. Johnson, of Frederick County. 6th. Lieut. George Thomas, of St. Mary's County.

State Ticket—For Governor, Gen. Benjamin C. Howard, of Baltimore County. Comptroller, Capt. A. Lingan Jarrett, of Harford County.

The polls were opened at 12 o'clock, agreeable to orders, and Capt. JAMES R. HERBERT, of Company D, Capt. J. LOUIS SMITH, of Company F, and Sergeant DORSEY, of Company A, were selected as Judges, and Lieut. J. G. W. MARRIOTT and Sergeant ROBERT H. CUSHING, of Company E, were appointed Secretaries.

The whole number of votes cast were 780, all of which were deposited in favor of the above candidates, and the electors unanimously instructed to declare JEFFERSON DAVIS and ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS as the choice of the 'Maryland exiles,' for President and Vice-President."

It is scarcely necessary to add the affair was regarded as a huge joke, and was managed with unbroken good humor, the effect of which was hightened by its apparent earnestness.

FROM THE EASTERN SHORE.

From the Baltimore American, Dec. 13.

Capt. FOWLER, of the Sixth Michigan Regiment, came up last night from the Eastern Shore of Virginia, bringing with him as a prisoner Col. B. T. GUNTER, of Accomac County. Col. GUNTER was Commonwealth's Attorney of Accomac and a Colonel of militia. Some time since he went to Richmond, and recently ran the blockade. As he was very defiant, and seemed disposed to excite new trouble in the county, Gen. LOCKWOOD thought it expedient to send him to Gen. DIX. He has been sent to Fort McHenry. Four or five others had recently returned from Richmond, and had been retained in custody by Gen. LOCKWOOD. Affairs remained quiet in both Accomac and Northampton Counties. All the arms in the possession of the military had been secured, and it was believed the people would not attempt any new demonstration. The Second Delaware Regiment and PURNELL'S Maryland Legion were still stationed near Eastville. NIM'S Boston Battery was on its return, and may be expected here to-day.

Capt. FOWLER, under appointment from Gen. LOCKWOOD, acted as Provost Marshal of the expedition, and was greatly useful in recovering arms and restoring order in the two counties. He brings from Gen. LOCKWOOD a strong acknowledgment of his usefulness in that post.

EMPHATIC.

The Louisville *Democrat* contradicts the statement that the Legislature of Kentucky intends to abolish Slavery, in this emphatic style:

"This is the most enormous, grand, splendiferous specimen of an inconceivable lie that ever was conceived by that High Chief Priest, Prince and Potentate of liars, the Washington telegraphers. The Legislature of Kentucky is endeavoring to do all they can to protect our institutions, GREELEY, CAMERON and COCHRANE to the contrary notwithstanding."

A RENUNCIATION.

MR. JAMES REDPATH publishes a card in the *Pine and Palm*, from which the following is an extract:

Having become sincerely convinced that many of the political doctrines that I have advocated in my writings are dangerous and abhorrent to the higher insight—the murderous policy, for example, of inciting the slaves to insurrection, which I have urged repeatedly and with mistaken zeal—I wish to announce here that I shall retire from any participation in the political management of this journal, excepting for the purpose of retracting past errors, until such time as I feel that I have attained a clearer and more human and Christian view of the duties of the freeman to the enslaved.

I shall confine myself exclusively to the editing of the outside pages of the paper. The name of the acting Editor will be duly announced. * * * * I repudiate my war doctrines, utterly and forever.

JAMES REDPATH.

WHO DID IT?

The *Anglo African*, of the present week, has his paragraph:

"H. W., a fine Virginian gentleman, of seventy winters, in splendid keep, and recently set free by the confiscation act, called in our sanctum to-day. He had witnessed the fight at Hilton Head, and landed at Beaufort, returning to this city in one of the transports a week or two ago. He insists that the worst secesehers are in the North, men owning lands and slaves in Dixie, who dare not speak out, but are working 'mighty' in the dark. He also says that the reputed robberies by the slaves at Beaufort were really committed by the officers and soldiers of the invading army. The officers would station men around the houses, go in first and help themselves, and then let the soldiers do likewise. An officer who landed at New-York, brought several heavy trunks ashore, one of which it took four men to lift. The soldiers having seized all they could carry, made a general smash of what was left—charging these barbarisms on the slaves."

GEN. SCOTT.

The Philadelphia *Bulletin* is permitted to publish the following extract from a letter received in that city from a passenger on board the *Arago*. The letter was mailed at Southampton Nov. 23:

"Gen. SCOTT seems to enjoy excellent health; has not missed a meal, and it does me good to look at the old hero. God bless him! He has waved the Stars and Stripes many a time, and never quailed before a foe.

This afternoon we had the 'Star Spangled Banner' sung, and all joined in the chorus. It was impressive, I can assure you. Some of the Secessionists hissed, and you ought to have seen the twitching of muscle among the strong men of the Union. The Captain, who is a wise old chap, immediately suggested 'Auld Lang Syne' to be sung, which in some measure checked the feeling, which was running very high. After all was over squads of men were seen talking, and in good earnest, I can tell you. Our table (the Doctor's mess) was very strong in sentiment, and when the old song was applauded I almost broke down the table. They all came to the conclusion that old Quaker Pennsylvania blood, when roused, was equal to anything. We are going to have the song again at the Captain's dinner on Friday, and a song composed for the occasion to Gen. SCOTT, to the tune of 'Hail to the Chief.' There will be a close watch who hisses."

PRISONERS RELEASED.

In compliance with the following special order, the prisoners named in it were a few days since discharged from the old Capitol military prison in Washington, and conveyed to Fortress Monroe, whence they were sent within the rebel lines under a flag of truce:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Nov. 20, 1861.

SPECIAL ORDERS No. 316.—The following named prisoners, (of war,) confined in this city, will be sent to Fort Monroe, and thence, under a flag of truce, through the United States lines, and released, on taking an oath not to engage in arms against the United States:

T. W. Branch, S. B. Buckley, R. Grange, W. Davis, T. A. Hammond, James Kershaw, A. T. Holmes, James Silks, T. T. Buck, J. W. Davis, J. H. Howard, J. O. Perkins, W. A. Prince, J. T. Pool, J. B. Driscoll, Thomas Hays, C. H. Knott, M. T. O'Keefe, Geo. Howard, R. Paulding, S. E. Vaden, J. S. Walker, W. C. Humphries, A. S. Sandstreet, E. M. Haycock, William Malver, J. T. Mays, A. J. Sejler, Dr. Fleming, Charles Bell, and A. P. Rose. C. R. Ballow, taking the oath of allegiance, will be relased.

By command of Major-Gen. MCCLELLAN.
(Signed) L. THOMAS, Adjutant-General.

THE NATIONAL TAX.

Secretary CHASE concludes a letter to GOV. PIERPOINT, of Western Virginia, as follows:

"Will you inform me, at the earliest practicable period, whether the authorities of Virginia will assume and pay the amount of direct tax apportioned to that State by the existing laws, and also whether, in case of any change of the law, by which a different and larger amount shall be apportioned to the State, the authorities will probably assume and pay it?"

DRAFTING.

The Memphis *Avalanche* of Monday says:

"There was not a little 'talk' on 'Change on Saturday about the militia law, the 'detailing' [drafting,] &c., and the opinion was generally expressed that Memphis, which has already furnished some twenty per cent. of its population, should not now be required to 'detail' one-half of its remaining population for active service, just as if she had not furnished her proportion previously."

The *Avalanche* then publishes the names of sixty persons in one ward who had been thus "detailed," or drafted, rather, notifying them to appear that afternoon for organization.

A VOICE FROM FORT WARREN.

The Albany *Argus* publishes the following from one of the Fort Warren prisoners:

FORT WARREN, Dec. 2, 1861.

To Wm. Cassidy:

DEAR SIR: I may have a friend somewhere in the world, who may not be displeased to learn that I am well, and that six weeks of imprisonment has not diminished my confidence in or attachment to the principles which I have heretofore advocated. I am bearing my confinement bravely and hopefully, in the confident belief that my motives and position will, some time in the future, be fully and satisfactorily vindicated. My brother's health is also good.

Truly yours, H. D. FLANDERS.

COL. ASTOR.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, WASHINGTON, Nov. 30, 1861.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 51.—JOHN J. ASTOR, Esq., of New-York, is announced as Volunteer Aid-de-Camp to the Commanding-General, with the rank of Colonel, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. By command of Maj.-Gen. MCCLELLAN.

S. WILLIAMS, Assistant Adjutant-General.
Official: WM. P. MASON, Aid-de-Camp.

GEN. FREMONT.

From the Syracuse Journal, Dec. 12.

When Gen. FREMONT was here on his way from St. Louis to New-York, a member of his military family explained the manner in which he came to make the journey. For three months, Gen. FREMONT'S entire time and energies had been given to the campaign in Missouri, and his extensive private business affairs were entirely neglected. On his supersedure and return to St. Louis, he made application to the War Department for leave to visit New-York to attend to business matters that demanded his immediate attention. *Seven* times was this request made, but no response was returned. Finally, Gen. FREMONT telegraphed to Gen. MCCLELLAN, and promptly received permission to make the journey.

MAJ. BOWE AND COL. HINKS.

Correspondence of the Boston Journal.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 5, 1861.

In some of the New-England papers there has been copied a dispatch from this city to a New-York journal, stating that a "personal difficulty was on the tapis between Col. HINKS, of the Nineteenth Massachusetts Regiment, and the Major of the New-York Tammany Regiment." Your correspondent has obtained the letters upon which this statement was based, which show that Col. HINKS acted in the matter as a Massachusetts officer should act, not seeking to evade responsibility through the niceties of the *code duello*, but frankly and manfully stating what he had done, and leaving the bellicose Major to draw his own conclusions, as best he might, to soothe his wounded honor. The correspondence read thus:

MAJ. BOWE TO COL. HINKS.

CAMP LYON, Nov. 1, 1861.

COL. E. W. HINKS—*Sir:* In your report to Gen LANDER, published in the New York *Herald* on the 29th of October, you asperse my character in such a manner that it requires an immediate explanation at your hands.

My friend Major BARRY will hand you this note, and receive your reply.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
P. BOWE, Maj. Tammany Regiment.

COL. HINKS TO MAJ. BOWE.

CAMP BENTON, Nov. 1, 1861.

MAJ. BOWE—*Sir:* I have received your note of today, demanding an explanation of some passages in my report of the late engagement at Harrison's Island, which you deem aspersive of your character.

I am not aware that I made any mention of *your name* of such a sort, and as I made report only of *undoubted facts* with regard to your regiment, in my official character of commander of the force at Harrison's Island, I feel it impossible to retract or unsay any portion of it, and hope that a more careful consideration of all the circumstances will show that there is no personal aspersion of yourself or desire to injure any one, but a plain matter of duty. I am with respect,
EDWARD W. HINKS.
Colonel Nineteenth Regiment, Commanding First Brigade.

A month has passed, and the Tammany Major has probably considered the circumstances, and wisely concluded that he had better remain quiet. Col. HINKS remains, (during the continued indisposition of Gen. LANDER,) Acting Brigadier-General of the First Brigade of Gen. STONE'S Corps of Observation stationed along the Potomac.

AID FOR LOYAL NORTH CAROLINIANS.

J. M. MORRISON, treasurer of the fund for the relief of the Hatteras sufferers, acknowledges the receipt of the following sums:

Willie and brother and some others		U. A. Murdoch	$20
	$1	E. Nye	205
C. C. Cambreling	50	N. & Co	5
Two loyal Carolinians.	21	G. S. Stephen on& Co.	2
C. A	10	Previously acknowl'd.	9,123
Thos. Dunham, Jr	50	Total	$9,325

WM. E. DODGE, Jr., Secretary, acknowledges the receipt of the following, in addition to donations previously published:

Paton & Co., 10 pairs blankets, 91 yards Canton flannel, 6 colored quilts; Benedict, Hall & Co., 100 pairs men's shoes; Howes, Hyatt & Co., 50 pairs men's shoes; Colgate & Co., 9 boxes soap, 12 boxes starch; Wickes, Smith & Co., 1 package stockings; H. Boker & Co., 1 valuable package hardware; R. Colgate & Co., 8 bbls. vinegar; McKisson & Robbins, 1 large case medicines; A. R. Wetmore, 1 case men's drawers, sent by ladies for the old people; Wetmore & Co., 1 valuable case hardware, &c.; Todd & Co., 50 bags salt; Woodruff & Robinson, 50 bags salt; E. M. Gaylard, 1 package stockings; Unknown parties, sundry small packages of clothing; Peter Cooper, 4 boxes gelatine; A Friend, 2 bed-quilts; Earl & Bartholomew, 6 bbls. meats, 11 boxes cheese, 5 boxes codfish, 4 sacks salt; J. R. M., 1 box clothing; Wm. Agnew & Sons, 2 boxes cavendish tobacco, 2 boxes cigars, 5 boxes pipes; T. Hoyt & Co., 1 bbl. smoking tobacco.

LETTER FROM CAMP ANDERSON.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD INFANTRY, U. S. A., CAMP ANDERSON, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sunday, Dec. 8, 1861.

Since my last letter several appointments have been made to the Staff of the Third Infantry stationed here. There were no Regimental Staff Officers, and as it was absolutely necessary that there should be, Brig.-Gen. SYKES recommended to the Secretary of War that First Lieut. J. A. MCCOOL—a most efficient and trustworthy officer, should be appointed Regimental Quartermaster, an office of great responsibility at any time, but especially in time of war; and the General himself appointed Lieut. FREDERICK DEVOE Adjutant to the Regiment, a post for which his experience as Sergeant-Major eminently qualifies him. In the order announcing these appointments Gen. SYKES says:

"The Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel being permanently absent, the Majors not joined and no Captains present with the companies at headquarters, the General commanding has taken upon himself to select the regimental staff officers, and while feeling great delicacy in so doing, not being the permanent commander, is yet sustained in his action by what he believes the best interest, of a regiment in which he has served nearly twenty years, and his whole military life."

The Colonel of the Third Infantry, B. L. E. Bonneville; one Major, Nathaniel C. McRae; and the Captain of Company H, Brevet-Major W. H. Gordon, senior Infantry Captain, have been retired. The Lieutenant-Colonel, Electus Backus, and Major Caleb Sibley, are absent; and the Captain of Company K, Brevet-Major T. H. Brooks, is Brigadier-General of Volunteers. The other Captains are detachad on various duties.

The late Adjutant, Lieut. J. P. DROUILLARD, has been appointed Assistant Adjutant-General on the Staff of Gen. Sykes.

It is very pleasing to the friends of Lieut. DEVOE, and it must be particularly so to himself, to find that he is considered competent to fulfill the duties of regimental Adjutant before he has held his commission two months. The regimental Sergeant-Majorship has been filled by the promotion of First Sergeant AUGUST KAISER, of Company G, who, since 1858, has seen a good deal of service of various kinds in Arkansas, New-Mexico, California, Texas and other parts. He was in the campaign against the Navajo Indians, and since the rebellion broke out he has been, first with the column under Gens. PATTERSON and CADWALLADER, and next in Gen. MCDOWELL'S Division at Centreville, Fairfax Court-house and Bull Run. In addition to his thorough acquaintance with military duties, Sergeant-Major KAISER speaks fluently five languages. He is deserving of, and should have, a commission.

In my previous letters I have referred to the promotion of con-commissioned officers, and the good effect which these promotions cannot fail to have upon the service generally. I have now the pleasure of sending you a copy of General Order No. 101, on the subject. It is worthy of the greatest publicity that can be given to it, and should be read by every young man in the country. Though dated twenty days back, I believe it has not yet been published:

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Nov. 20, 1861.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 101.—The intention of the Government in reserving the original vacancies of Second Lieutenants for the most deserving among the non-commissioned officers of the new regular regiments, was two-fold—to secure the services of brave, intelligent and energetic officers, by appointing only those who had proved themselves to be such, after a fair competition with all who chose to enter the lists against them, and to give to the young men of the country—those especially who were poor, unknown and without any social or political influence—an equal opportunity with the most favored. In General Orders No. 16, of May 4, 1861, this intention was publicly announced. *It is now reaffirmed; and commanding officers of the new regiments will see it is carried out in good faith.* By order.

L. THOMAS, Adjutant-General.

It has been definitely determined upon that the battalion under the command of Gen. SYKES shall remain here during the Winter, to form the main patrol of the City, and look after secesh prisoners.

It may be interesting to the readers of the TIMES—which I may mention here, is called the "Regulars' Paper," in our camp, all others being at a discount—to know from one who has had to shoulder his musket and go the rounds, exactly what patrol duty is. The citizens of and sojourners in the National Capital have, by this time, a pretty correct idea of it, but the dwellers in the Empire City have not had such a good opportunity of being posted on it. In some respects it would be better for them if they had, though the rumsellers, and certain other parties even less reputable, would suffer considerably.

There are two patrols in the city, the Cavalry and the Infantry, but as the duties of one are almost identical with those of the other, it will suffice if I describe the infantry patrol, with which I am the most acquainted. The patrol of this battalion consists of one commissioned officer, who is also officer of the day, one sergeant, and twelve men. The Second and Eighth Regiments of Infantry stationed in the city each supply a like number. Each patrol has its regular beat, and is relieved every morning at guard-mount, half past 8. All officers and soldiers found one mile from their respective camps, without a written pass from their commanding officer, are arrested. The patrol visits all places where liquor is sold, and any one proved to have sold liquor to a soldier is fined $25 for the first offence, and $25 and three months imprisonment for the second offence. A short time ago Gen. SYKES was walking through the city late one afternoon, and while passing a corner grocery, espied one of his men in the act of imbibing. Entering the store, the General said, not in the mildest manner, I dare say,

"What are you selling liquor to my men for?"

"Dat bees no liquor, dat bees lager," said the proprietor, "dis is one friend of mine from Deutchland, so he drink ein glass lager."

"Well," said the General, "Don't you know that a Dutchman will get drunk sooner on lager than an Irishman will on whisky?"

Report does not say whether the proprietor was aware of this fact or not, but the probability is that he was not—nor any other man. Speaking of whisky—it is wonderful to me how the men can drink the liquor that is sold to them at some groggeries. It is even worse than frontier liquor, and *that* will kill at a mile and a-half.

After nightfall it is the duty of the officer in command of the patrol to enter all houses of questionable repute, and should he find officers or soldiers there, the latter are at once arrested, and the names of the former are taken, and they are ordered to their quarters under arrest. On the following morning the officers names are sent to the Provost Marshal, and the erring individuals have to undergo the ordeal of a Court-martial.

The officer need not confine his visits to the description of houses I have referred to, especially after 9½ P. M., or, in soldier's parlance, "after taps." If he suspect that a soldier is in any house after this time, he is authorized to enter and arrest him for being absent from camp without leave, which is a serious charge at any time, but especially so now.

These domiciliary visits have brought to light the rather curious fact that most of our soldiers have relatives living in the National capital. For if a soldier is discovered in a private house after taps, without leave of absence, he is sure to have been taking a bit of supper with some relatives, and to have "forgot the hours." *I* have an uncle and aunt living here, about two blocks from the camp, though I didn't know it until I had been stationed here some time. When I explained this to the officer who saw me through the window one night some time about ten, and who marched me off to the guard-house, I observed him smile very incredulously, and was at a loss to understand why he should do so. I don't understand it yet.

CAMP ANDERSON.

THE PRESENT FEELING IN KENTUCKY.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

LOUISVILLE, Saturday, Dec. 7, 1861.

Feverish excitement about the nigger pervades the popular mind just now. What shall be done with the nigger? What can be done? What ought to be done? Or, shall anything be done? Can we, or can we not, somehow, keep the nigger from distracting and dividing the Union sentiment and cause? Every man has his own notion, and no two agree exactly alike, except on two points—that it won't do for the Government to let the negroes run loose in the South, and that it won't do for the Government to arm and employ them as soldiers. On these two points the public mind appears undivided. It is useless and wrong to disguise the fact that there is a very general and bitter hostility to even the suggestions of the possibility of resorting to a policy that would arm the blacks on either side, or that would allow them to "go whither they like and do as they see fit," or to "proceed freely and peaceably without restraint to seek a livelihood in any loyal portion of the country," and thus to affect and exasperate the loyal as well as disloyal. Kentucky wants no more free negroes running at large within her limits than she has now, and will have no more, if she can help it. Mr. JACOB, in the House, offered yesterday the following, which was unanimously adopted: "That the Committee on Judiciary be required to report a bill prohibiting the emigration of free negroes to this State." This shows something of the popular aversion to the presence of the free negro. Call it, if you please, a prejudice, it is deep-rooted and ineradicable. A bill based upon this feeling will be reported and be passed with hearty unanimity by the House and the Senate. The feeling here accords with yours, that "any law is better for anybody than no law, and the law of the plantation is better for the negro than utterly lawless abandonment to his own passions."

Many loyal Kentuckians say the Government and its armies should, if possible, have nothing at all to do with the negro; can get along better without the negro, and should not let him come within our military lines or camps; that the Government can succeed sooner and better without the negro; has ample power to succeed without him, and can, with its immense army and navy, and inexhaustible military and financial resources, inflict sufficient, salutary, and effective punishment upon the comparatively few, feeble, and exhausted insurgents, without directly touching or using in any way their cumbersome negro property; and, by thus avoiding and giving the lie to the charge of abolition, can produce a favorable impression upon the Southern mind, and an eventual popular reaction, without which the Government cannot achieve by the war the legitimate objects and the permanent salutary results to be kept constantly in view. Even admitting that the slaves' military strength and availability to the rebels are not overrated, (though I think they are,) they insist that the negroes in the Government's hands would be a source only of embarrassment, drawback, and weakness to it, and that the Government has abundant means, in the ordinary course of warfare, without employing or emancipating the negro, to save itself and re-establish itself over the entire South. They beseech the Government, so far as practicable, to save and spare the Southern people and their peculiar institutions, in order to recover their voluntary allegiance and their voluntary intercourse with the rest of the country. It is believed that the Government can restore the Union without permanent military subjection and occupation of the South—without devastation of the South other than what the South herself inflicted—and without the adoption of any policy increasing and perpetuating the popular prejudices already so implanted and intensified by DAVIS, YANCEY & Co., Restoration of the Union, by the irretrievable destruction of an entire component and indispensable part of the Union, would not be a restoration worth having; it would be no restoration at all. For the whole country's sake, they say, let the struggle not be more embittered, violent and remorseless than it is already; and let the Government, at this critical moment, taboo any policy about the negro that would play into the hands of the rebel leaders, and might, under the momentary excitement, spread their cause like wildfire up to Mason and Dixon's line.

The President's reported suppression of the obnoxious portion of Secretary CAMERON'S report is warmly approved. The President's conservative disposition, despite unfair, inconsiderate and mischievous criticisms, will receive the great credit it deserves. The President evidently wants and means to do what is right and most expedient, and not to causelessly or unnecessarily offend or injure any present or future Southern Unionist, nor to hopelessly alienate those misled and coerced Southern people whose voluntary recognition and regard he seeks to obtain. He can't please everybody. If he can manage to please the majority of the Union men North, and of those who are now or can be made genuine Union men South, he will do wisely and well. As you remark, President LINCOLN keeps in constant view the permanent results which must be achieved by the war.

By the way, his colonization suggestion does not receive from to-day's *Democrat* the marked favor it received from Thursday's *Democrat*. To-day it says: "The President will find that his colonization scheme will fail, not only on account of its inhumanity, but on account of the expense, which is more than this country will bear. What the President proposes, or is implied in his colonization scheme, is to make the Federal Government an immense slave-owner. Martial law may temporarily free the slave from his master; but when the necessities of war cease martial law ceases, and the common or statute law resumes its place. After all, the negro will remain where he is, and when the conflict is over, he will fall under State laws again."

The *Democrat* and *Journal* "demand CAMERON'S removal as due to the cause; due to the loyal Union men of this State, and of the Slave States generally; as right to the conservative element of the North, as well as the South, and as necessary to the preservation of the Union."

PONTIAC.

—The Venerable Josiah Quincy is suffering from severe bruises which he received by a fall,

LETTERS ON CURRENT TOPICS.

Difference in the Treatment of Rebels and Loyalists in Regard to Property.

NEW-YORK, Thursday, Nov. 7, 1861.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

SIR: A year ago I was possessed of moderate wealth and an income much above my wants. I had property both in the Northern and Southern States, and although more than two-thirds of my income was derived from Southern property, still I regarded my possessions in the two sections of about equal value, on account of the somewhat variable returns and dangerous tenor of that in the latter place.

Although belonging by birth to the South, my sympathies and recently formed connections, to say nothing of increased comforts, have attracted me to the North, which for many years has been my principal residence; still I ever maintained the closest intimacy and friendship with the companions of my boyhood, including, of course, my own relations. At the commencement of the unhappy strife which divides our common country, I was advised to return to my home and to the protection of my interests there, and the advice was accompanied by a hint that those interests would be increased. I hesitated, for my maintenance of Northern principles was well known and I could not endure the thought of connecting myself with those who were in arms against that Union I had always honored, and in the formation of which my grandfather had acted a conspicuous part. One of my best and oldest friends, a man of large means, implored me to return without delay, and recommended me to at least simulate devotion to the cause of my countrymen, and so preserve my inherited estate. He pointed out that whether joining the rebellion or remaining with the Union, my Northern property would, beyond doubt, remain in my possession, but that uniting myself with the North would insure the confiscation of whatever I owned in the South, which otherwise would be secured to me with a probable addition. He also advised that he had no doubts concerning the safety of his own Northern investments, which, if it came to the worst, could readily be concealed or transferred; and, moreover, he felt convinced that no active search would be made for the property of Southerners, and that even if found sufficient proof could not be produced for its seizure.

But enough of this. I had expressed my opinions, and I have adhered to them. In consequence my Southern estate is confiscated, and I am deprived of something more than two-thirds of my income.

Former friends gave the information, and were the leading spirits that led to the seizure of my property, and their last letters boasted that they were the cause of my present poverty. Yet these very individuals have lands and investments in the North still standing securely in their own names. One only has thought it prudent to transfer his property to a Northern agent.

Is it not possible that there are many who, situated like myself, have moneyed or family interests on both sides of this wretched conflict, and have adopted the cause of the rebellion simply because by so doing they suffer no loss either of estate or friends?

My property is seized, and my friends and relations—those whom I most trusted in—refuse any communication with me. On the other hand, their property in the North still remains theirs; their old friends here still profess, and really entertain, regard and friendship.

I do not ask retaliation, but I write to present this view to the public, and, indeed, I assure them and assure the authorities that, had the Government adopted a vigorous course against the estates and investments of Southern men, a most powerful Union sentiment would have displayed itself in every city of the South. I make this assertion, not from opinion, but from certain knowledge.

A distant connection of my own, a man of great wealth, and one of the richest in the South, has, for nearly thirty-five years, invested all his surplus income in the Northern States, in lands, and bonds and Government stocks. Three years ago he informed me that his investments in the State of New-York alone amounted to over $400,000. This man was among the last to identify himself with the cause of the rebellion, and I have good reason to believe that if seven months ago his Northern property had been in any danger of seizure, he would boldly have declared himself a Unionist. Now I am informed that he is a leading man in his part of the country, and contributes largely to the cause of secession. Is not this good policy on his part?

That person who first took active steps against me in the South is the owner of a large store in this city, and, until very recently, its rents were remitted him by an agent. He wrote to me, boasting that he was a principal in my ruin. The fellow knew well that I had not the baseness to declare against him, and he knew, too, that even if I had, I could do him no injury.

Yours, X.

"Honor to Whom Honor is Due."

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The fair and liberal course pursued by your journal induces me to send you this communication, not doubting you will give it a place in your columns.

In your issue of the 6th inst., under the head of "Our Special Washington Dispatches," your correspondent, in speaking of Col. ROBINSON, late Captain of Fifth Infantry, U. S. A., says, "He was in command of Fort McHenry during the Baltimore riot, and by his firm course prevented the Fort from being attacked."

Now, without wishing to detract from the merit due to Capt. ROBINSON, it is but *simple justice* to state the facts of the case.

On Saturday, the 20th of April, it was rumored through the city that an attack would be made at night on Fort McHenry and the receiving ship at anchor in the harbor. Marshal KANE, with the approbation of the Board of Police, (now in confinement in Fort Warren,) immediately chartered a steamer, and placed on board of her a large force of the armed police of his command, with orders to guard and protect the receiving ship, and to protect the fort from an attack on the water side. The steamer was designated by lanterns prominently displayed, and notice of the fact was sent to the officer in command of the fort. Marshal KANE also dispatched a large body of his police force to the fort, and had them placed just outside, subject to the orders of, and at a point suggested by Capt. ROBINSON, to repel any land attack. In addition to the armed police force, the Board of Police obtained the services of several companies of the "Maryland Guard," of the Fifty-third Regiment, V. M., and a troop of horse from Baltimore County—of which MR. JOHN MERRYMAN was a Lieutenant,—all of which repaired to points in the vicinity of the fort, to aid the police force, and all remained on guard during the night. By *these measures*, thus promptly adopted by the Police Commissioners and their Chief Marshal, the fort was preserved from capture. *But* for these, Capt. ROBINSON and his "two hundred recruits" would have been overpowered, and the Fort demolished.

These facts are known to a large number of our citizens, and the officers of the United States Army then at the fort, and it is only an *act of justice* to the parties concerned that they should be made public.

BALTIMORE.

[We publish the above, which comes to us from a responsible source, remarking merely that there may be a doubt in the minds of many persons as to whether Fort McHenry *would have been taken* by the mob, even if Marshal KANE'S police force had not been ordered out for its protection.—ED. TIMES.]

Imported Arms.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 9, 1861.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In his last report the Secretary of War says: "To prevent advantage being thus taken of the necessities of the Government, collectors of customs have been directed to deliver to the agents of the United States all arms and munitions that may be imported into this country." In my opinion this is a novel kind of embargo, in spite of the fact that Government pays, or has paid, a liberal profit to the importer. Is this a prerogative due to belligerents from neutrals with whom we hold friendly relations? I should, at least, think a public notification ought to have preceded any such measure. Does this passage mean anything, or have the Secretary's words been mutilated by the telegraph? Will you explain? H.

The Engineer Service.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Can you explain how it is that, in the vast augmentations lately made in our armies, no provision is heard of for the increase of either branch of the Engineers?

Surely, so important a department of the service should not be overlooked in a war which would appear to demand extraordinary rather than mere proportionate services in its specialties. Moreover, it is notorious that our scanty corps of Engineer officers has been seriously diminished in the rebellious stampede.

There are many highly cultivated young men in the country who have been bred as civil engineers and whose services might, in a short time, be rendered highly valuable in the departments in question. Such, for instance, are the graduates of the Rensselaer Polytechnic School at Troy, where the course of instruction is of the most rigorous and practical nature, differing from that at West Point only in the absence of the pure military character.

The absence of any allusion to this subject in the report of the Secretary of War has suggested inquiry on the part of many who, like myself, would be glad of any enlightenment you may be kind enough to furnish through your columns.

Respectfully, &c., BRUNEL.

Officers of the Engineer Corps.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The position of the officers of the Engineer Corps of the army, in the present war, seems to me in some respects not an enviable one.

Lieutenants of the line are every day appointed Colonels of Volunteer Regiments.

Lieutenants of Engineers are every day receiving Colonel's Commissions from Governors of States, but on applying to their Chief for permission to accept them, are told: "You cannot be spared; your services are too valuable. There are plenty of officers who can do the duty of Colonels in the line of the army, but we have but few Engineer officers, and if they go, there is none to replace them. The country is full of Civil Engineers, but there are no Military Engineers, and none who can become Military Engineers without years of study, except the officers of this corps. It is not possible to spare them."

Now, if the services of these Engineers are so valuable that they are denied the privilege granted to other officers, why not give them some *quid pro quo*—why not, for instance, advance them a file in their own corps?

A General cannot post his brigade without the advice of an officer of Engineers, and yet see the difference in their social standing. The General with his showy uniform is treated with high consideration, while people look at the poor Engineer, and, glancing at his shoulder-strap, say, "Oh! he is only a Lieutenant!"

Fair for the Children of Seamen.

To the Editor of the New-York Times

We would call the attention of your readers to a Fair now in preparation for the benefit of the "Home for Destitute Children of Seamen." When such efforts are constantly being made for the relief of the families of our soldiers, is it not equally necessary to think somewhat of our sailors, who leave their families quite as illy provided, and who are quite as much exposed in our service. There is an institution now on Staten Island, which supports 120 children of sailors, and would gladly afford shelter to many more if the means of supplying their wants could be found. But the home is dependent upon donations and subscriptions, and the times are hard and the people have little to give. Some liberal individuals, indeed, have done a great deal, but they cannot support these children alone;—will not others help them? It has been supposed by many that this institution was partially supported by the "Sailors' Snug Harbor"—that the Institution for the fathers also took care of the children. This is not so—it being wholly out of the power of the Snug Harbor to aid in any way whatever.

A Fair is therefore proposed for the benefit of this Society, and as children are received from New-York and from all parts of the Island, it is hoped that the benevolent of both places will be induced to assist.

The Fair will be held on Wednesday, the 11th of December, at PETELER'S Hotel, New-Brighton, that being the place most accessible to the City and to the different parts of the Island.

Donations may be sent to PETELER'S Hotel, New-Brighton. W.

Senator Latham's Eulogy of Col. Baker.

DELIVERED IN THE SENATE ON THURSDAY, DEC. 12.

MR. PRESIDENT: Several years ago, in my own home, one of the most brilliant tributes to the talented dead I ever heard, fell from the lips of him whose memory we to-day unite to honor. After a feeling review of the eloquence and genial nature of the gifted FERGUSON, Col. BAKER suddenly paused, and with a sadness of tone that was a fitting echo to the thought, exclaimed: "Who will thus speak of me when I am dead?" The desire then expressed, but no doubt soon forgotten, is more than fulfilled in the just tribute we must all pay to the eloquent BAKER.

Mr. President, during the lifetime of the deceased, although not classified among his warmest friends, yet our relations were of the most amicable and cordial nature. Always opposed in political opinion, through several strifeful years, the pleasant recollection yet remains of not one unkind word or act to blight the respect felt for him while living, and my sincere sorrow at his death. I never knew a man of more kindness of disposition,—more willing to make allowance for the shortcomings common to all,—or more ready in praise, when deserved. Seemingly conscious of his power, he never deemed it necessary for his own advancement to disparage true talent and personal worth in others. An entire absence of vindictive malice, the quick forgetfulness of even an injury or wrong inflicted,—quiet composure amid trying scenes of an eventful life, all bespoke those gentle qualities which made him a fond father, a good husband and a devoted friend. It is not my purpose to analyze Col. BAKER'S character. Others, who enjoyed more of his confidence, can speak more accurately. If one quality marked him in public life more than any other, and impressed his whole career, it was his singleness of purpose. His early struggles in life,—his self-taught mind,—his school of adversity,—his ardent and poetical temperament,—all infused into his very soul the most powerful and sincere love of individual emulation and freedom, in the broadest acceptation of that term. He has left upon record as glowing sentiments as ever fell from the lips of man, in that great cause. Upon this subject, on every occasion—at the Bar, on the Hustings, and in the Senate, wherever his mind seized upon it, it became not "eloquence."—It was fiery inspiration. Views upon the rights of Human Liberty, and the dignity of free labor, were with him no "mawkish sentimentality,"—they controlled and influenced his whole life from boyhood to the grave. Hence it was when this unprecedented rebellion raised its front against our just and free Government, Senator BAKER, by his life and the occupation of each moment, was willing to prove the sincerity of his words. But two weeks prior to his death, he remarked to me, as he had to others, "I shall never come out of this struggle alive. The presentiment of death is upon me." Even then the dark wings of the coming messenger were over him, and he walked courageously forward beneath their sad shadow:

"As drops of rain fall into some dark well,
And from below comes a scarce audible sound,
So fell our thoughts into the dark Hereafter,
And their mysterious Echo reaches us."

Endeavoring to persude him that he should not give way to gloomy forebodings, well calculated to destroy his peace of mind and usefulness in his new duties, I shall never forget, Senators, the sad but earnest manner in which he replied, "I am charged with having much to do by my speech in bringing these troubles upon our country, I only hope to have more to do by my acts in ending them."

"Among innumerable false, unmoved,
Unshaken, unseduced, unterrified,
His loyalty he kept, his love, his zeal;
Nor number, nor example, with him wrought
To swerve from truth or change his constant mind,
Though single."

The most brilliant mental efforts of his life are not upon record. The sudden bursts of his often matchless eloquence have passed away with the time and occasion of their utterance. Those preserved of his addresses, on different occasions, are cold and formal compared with others uttered without premeditation; when under inspiration of the moment, his mind glowed with the fire of genius and strength. His ease and grace of delivery, his felicity of expression, his wonderful flow of harmonious language, the musical intonations of his voice, can never be forgotton by those who have heard him in many of his happy efforts. His eulogies upon Senator BRODERICK, and MR. FERGUSON, a State Senator of California, are specimens of the highest oratorical pathos, while his oration in San Francisco upon celebrating the laying of the Atlantic Cable, contains passages of the greatest sublimity and beauty. In my judgmen. his impromptu reply to Senator BRECKINRIDGE during our session in July was his ablest in the Senate. But the genial nature, the eloquent tongue, the mind which reveled in its own exuberant creations, now sleeps in those cerements which at last embrace with their chill folds all the children of

The New-York Times.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

We publish this morning most important news from Charleston, coupled with rumors of the most startling character. Nearly the whole of that pestilent city has been destroyed by an incendiary fire, the torch being applied by a negro—a free negro, the dispatches state. The fire broke out in a sash-factory on Hazel-street, and communicated to buildings on the opposite side, when, under the impulse of a stiff breeze, the conflagration soon assumed a formidable character—aided, perhaps, (though the dispatches do not so state,) by the incendiaries. The business portion of the City appears to have been almost entirely swept away, including the Institute and St. Andrew's Halls, the Theatre, the Catholic Cathedral and the Circular Church—and last, though not least, the *Mercury* and *Courier* offices. Our latest advices are to the afternoon of Thursday, when the fire was still raging, as it had been since 9 o'clock on the previous evening. Thousands of houseless persons were huddled in the streets, and supplies for their relief were being sent in from the surrounding country. But the most important announcement in connection with this conflagration is that it was intended as only one scene in the horrible tragedy of a slave insurrection. The plot is said to have been disclosed by the body-servant of a military officer, and the discoveries which had followed had created the greatest consternation. Families were closing and barring their windows, and taking other measures to secure themselves. There are rumors, also, that insurrections had broken out in the interior of the State two days before the fire, and at last accounts were still raging unchecked.

Another battle has been fought in Western Virginia, resulting in the last body of rebels west of the mountains being driven back, with heavy losses. The affair took place on Friday, at Alleghany Camp, in Pocahontas County, near Cheat Mountain. The National forces, commanded by Gen. MILROY, numbered but seven hundred and fifty men, and the rebel forces, commanded by Gen. JOHNSON, of Georgia, numbered over two thousand. The battle lasted from daylight until 3 o'clock P. M., the rebels losing over two hundred in killed and wounded, and thirty prisoners, while the National loss is but about thirty. The dispatch states that the enemy were five times driven into their barracks, from which we infer that the attack was made by our troops. The rebels subsequently set fire to their camp and retreated to Staunton, our forces having meantime temporarily retired. The result of this battle, considering the great disparity of the forces engaged, is gratifying.

We have no confirmation of the report brought by a deserter to our lines, on Friday, that the rebels were advancing in force from Centreville, to make an attack. Everything appears to have been very quiet, yesterday, so far as the rebels were concerned. A sham battle took place between two brigades of our own troops, however, which made considerable noise.

The Frankfort, Ky., correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* telegraphs under date of Dec. 11, that the movements on the Nashville line consist in an advance of ROUSSEAU'S Brigade ten miles to Bacon Creek, and of JOHNSON eight miles further to Green River. Transportation for single brigades can be secured easily enough before the bridge is repaired. ROUSSEAU was supposed to be at Bacon Creek. Well informed parties begin to express the belief that Gen. BUCKNER will not make a stand at Bowling Green at all, regarding the National force as too overwhelming.

The Boston *Transcript* intimates that the *Constitution*, with part of Gen. BUTLER'S Brigade, has gone to reinforce the position now held by our forces at Ship Island.

Major O'BRIEN, of the Eighteenth United States Infantry, and Captain ROBERT DWYER, of the Engineer Corps, arrived in Oswego, on Thursday, for the purpose of making an inspection into the defences of that city, and a survey of Fort Ontario. They estimate that the expenditures at that point will amount to $250,000 or $300,000. These gentlemen will also make surveys of other places on the Northern frontier.

GENERAL NEWS.

Our dispatches from California give an account of a great flood which has occurred in that State, owing to a heavy rain storm, which lasted for several days. The City of Sacramento was almost submerged, the water in the houses standing from two to twelve feet deep. The losses in that city alone will probably amount to half a million of dollars. At last accounts the weather had become more settled, and the waters were slowly subsiding.

The Board of Canvassers held two short sessions yesterday, and finished comparing the returns. Another meeting will be held on Monday, at 2 P. M., to pass upon the returns as footed up, and formally declare the result. The Chairman decided yesterday that in any case where there is known to have been a false result certified to by the Ward Canvassers, (as is accidentally the case with both returns of the vote for school officer in the Thirteenth District, Eighteenth Ward,) the candidate who is wronged can only obtain redress in the Courts. The City Canvassers cannot go back of the returns.

A broker named BERNARD LEVY, of the firm of L. B. LEVY & SONS, doing business at No. 146 Canal-street, was found yesterday morning, about 10 o'clock, dead in his own office, under very mysterious circumstances. His throat was cut in a most horrible manner, and from the nature of the wound he must have died almost instantly. The Coroner held an inquest upon the body, but the jury were unable to decide from the evidence by whom the wounds were caused, and therefore rendered a verdict that deceased came to his death in some manner to them unknown. The Coroner has retained the body for further investigation.

It is denied by authority that Gen. SHERMAN was insane while commanding in Kentucky. He was then only subject to temporary mental aberration.

The Ninth, Twelfth and Thirteenth Wisconsin regiments are ordered to Kansas to report to Gen. HUNTER.

Capt. BAXTER, of the United States gunboat *South Carolina*, has resigned, and is now in Boston. Under his command the steamer has captured nearly twenty prizes.

The funeral of Mr. JOHN P. JACKSON, late Vice-President of the New-Jersey Railroad, was held in Newark, on Friday afternoon. Representatives of all the railroads in the State were present, and among the pall-bearers were Hon. J. W. MILLER, Ex-United States Senator, Hons. WM. PENNINGTON, H. PERRY, HAMILTON FISH, D. S. GREGORY and B. WILLIAMSON.

A more active demand prevailed for Breadstuffs, on Saturday, at essentially unchanged prices. Cotton was in brisk request, and 2,000 bales were sold, chiefly on a basis of 35c.@36c. for Middlings, ℔ lb., though some small lots were represented as having been disposed of at higher rates, and toward the close the asking prices were up to 38c.@40c. ℔ lb. A fair business was transacted in Sugars, Coffee and Spirits Turpentine. A public sale of 1,508 bbls. of the latter—the cargoes of prize vessels—passed off quite briskly. Provisions were moderately inquired for. Spices and Whisky attracted more attention, as also Wool and Whalebone. The freight engagements were limited.

The War and Our Social Prosperity.

If there was one thing on which all agreed at the outbreak of the war, it was that we should have to look forward to a season of general distress in our cities, this Winter, as the result of the social convulsion. Six months ago, the canvas of the future was not only red with the colors of war, but black with the anticipations of suffering and starvation. Whether proclaimed with blatant exultation by rebels South or rebel sympathizers North, or *felt* by the loyal and true as an ominous shadow darkening the future—it is a matter of history that the one general conviction was that the coming Winter was big with social and industrial disaster. The Secessionists gloatingly prophesied that infuriate mobs would go howling "bread or blood" through our streets; and nobody needs to be reminded *what* New-York journal gave these diabolisms daily expression. Europeans—out of whose heads it seems to be impossible to get the idea that *class*-interests are somehow mixed up with this war—told us we should soon have "dangerous socialistic upheavals, and the terrible cry of the French Revolution reëchoed by the masses whom the war will plunge into poverty."

The patriotic and the prudent were not free from the like forebodings. There was, perhaps, just ground for them. It was hard to see how it could be otherwise amid the chaos of war. No BACON of social science has yet put into our hands the power of *prevision:* and every analogy from similar civil strifes in the olden societies seemed to prophesy ill for us. Alone, perhaps, this journal endeavored, by an analysis of the conditions of the case, to show that these fears were mainly groundless.

How entirely the best, and better than the best we could have dared to hope for, has been brought about, we have the most gratifying evidence before us to-day. Not only has our Democratic social framework withstood the shock and strain of war, but the condition of the industrial classes in our large cities is as good, and in some respects better, than usual! And, while a certain amount of disaster necessarily attended the entry on a new order of things, yet, so plastic are the elements of life in the free North, that we speedily accommodated ourselves to the new conditions. Already we verge on Christmas and Mid-winter, when, if ever, we have trying days—and there is quite as much work, and quite as little poverty, as at the same season in ordinary times. The outlook is equally hopeful; the new channels taken by our industrial forces are, and will remain, open till the end of the war; and, whether war or peace, the prospects of our mechanics, artisans, and laborers, are as good as at the best.

It was certainly a combination of circumstances we may well call providential that the contractions of labor the past year had been preceded by a period of unusual prosperity, which had been so improved by the laboring classes that many of them were prepared for sudden reverses. The official statement of the savings banks of New-York show that the industrial classes of this City had in bank, at the outbreak of the war, and subject to their order, not less than $40,000,000, and that at the very time the secession journals, North and South, represented us as menaced with "the cry of bread or blood from fifty thousand starving people." These cash deposits would average a thousand dollars to each of forty thousand families of the laboring class—a pretty good insurance against either want or hunger riots. Of course, when the derangements of the war came on, this surplus served to bridge over any interval of slackness. This was not long. New industries arose; old ones took on new proportions. The immense materials of war and soldiers outfits demanded, soon furnished employment for a grand army of workmen and workwomen. The enormous forwarding trade so stimulated by the extraordinary demands of Europe on our ample harvests, lent unwonted activity to work on the railroads, canals, among the shipping and on the wharves. In addition to these, our great cities have been drained of a very large surplus laboring and mechanical population for the army—the double effect of which has been to diminish competition, while it poured back into general circulation millions from the enormous disbursements of the Government in the way of military pay to the volunteers. It is to these combined influences—all of which are in "for the war"—that is to be attributed the condition of well-being among our industrial classes, which both ordinary experience and official statistics show to exist in our City to-day.

There are some recently-published documents which strikingly attest the reality of this general prosperity among the industrial population. Among these are the reports of the Almshouse and of the "Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor"—which give a keen insight into the social anatomy of our City. The report of the last named body shows that the number of families relieved in 1855 was 15,584; in 1857 it was 13,842; while in 1861 it has been but 8,532. It will be recollected that 1855 was the year of blighted harvests; 1857 was remarkable for great financial embarrassments; and in 1861—the year of Civil War—the destitution in this City has been *forty-six* per cent. less than in 1855; *thirty-nine* per cent. less than in 1857; and *thirty-two* per cent. less than the average of the six preceding years, and at the present time there is not a sober industrious workman on their lists. The results, as shown by the Almshouse statistics, are not very dissimilar. The outdoor relief was given, during the previous year, to 74,992 persons; during the present year, to 67,464 persons—showing a decrease of 7,528 compared with the preceding year. Criminal statistics show a like happy result. This is certainly a matter of profound congratulation; for the hearts of the people might well sink within them, were the agony of industrial distress added to the weight of the war. There seems to be two other results it should have. First, it must have convinced the Confederate leaders that their hopes of an internal revolution among the laboring classes, on account of want of work, are utterly vain. Secondly, it may well go to Europe as a new illustration of the inexhaustibly elastic force of Democracy. They may also learn that those "dangerous classes," with their "social upheavals," of whom they have prated, have no existence here. They are confined to Europe—those wretches who crawl out of darkness, in their cities, on a day of revolution, and play so dreadful a part. Society with us is doubly safe, for not only is there here no class with any wrongs to avenge but there is the strong cohesion that every man—the humblest artisan—feels he has a stake in the prosperity of that society of which he has the quickening consciousness of forming a part.

The Charleston Conflagration.

The ruin which Charleston has invoked upon the country seems now to have overtaken herself. It is impossible to form an accurate idea of the origin or limits of the conflagration, from the dispatches which have reached us up to this morning. The telegraph is evidently unacquainted with the topography of Charleston; it mixes up buildings and streets, and locates edifices in quarters which, at all events up to secession times, they did not occupy. But the different buildings mentioned as being burnt, indicate a fire terrible and of great extent, including in its sweep nearly all the principal public edifices and the main part of the business section of the city. If what seems to be involved in the telegrams be true, that the line of flame stretched from the eastern end of Broad-street well across to the western lines of the city, and from thence swept northward up King and other parallel streets, as high as and beyond the old theatre, those who know the city will see how completely Old Charleston has been gutted. The latest dispatch—up to Thursday night—says that the fire was still raging, and that it had then crossed Broad-street, and was sweeping furiously on. If that means that it had leapt to the south side of that street, and if it runs from thence across the few streets, down to the battery, Charleston may as well be blotted from the map of America, and the salt be sown on the spot upon which it stood.

There is strong evidence that the conflagration was the work of incendiaries—and of black incendiaries, too. The negroes are beginning to catch the contagion of general destruction, and the madness of the master is seizing upon the slave. Slavery, in some circumstances, is undoubtedly an element of military strength; but, in its legitimate development, it is just as surely an element of military weakness. As the war goes on, the rebels will find that fact out. The stories of arms being discovered in the negro quarters, and of slave insurrections in Charleston and in the interior of the State, are more than likely. There are many evidences lately that the slaves are beginning to sniff the gunpowder of their masters, and to get heated about the war. This, if it extends, will be a fire in BEAUREGARD'S rear which he cannot possibly overlook. All the indications now are that the war which the Southern conspirators have precipitated will work out the complete destruction of both Slavery and the South.

A PANIC AT NORFOLK.—It must be conceded to the English newspaper Press, that the territorial acquisitions of Gen. SHERMAN are not important as a question of acres; but there is no doubt the capture of Port Royal has exerted a prodigious moral effect within the bounds of rebeldom, and done more than seemed possible toward dissipating that vainglorious self-confidence with which the cockerels of the South strutted their improvised ramparts, mounted with stolen thunder, and defied the world. They have found their entrenchments wholly at the mercy of any belligerent comer. There are so many shells to be exploded by the legions of LINCOLN, and all these tremendous products of rebel engineery are to be evacuated, and given over to the tenancy of the Northern invader. Port Royal has demonstrated so much; and there is alarm behind every perch of defensive masonry on the Southern coast.

The reason we have had occasion to indicate heretofore. It is not in the nature of a people such as the population of the South, to be thorough in anything. Their most imposing achievements in the way of military works will prove to be impostures indeed—mere semblances, of which Northern substantial examples have furnished models inimitable by the imperfect skill of the Southern workmen. We predict that such will be the experience of the entire war. The tremendous lines of Manassas, when hereafter approached and compared with those at Arlington, will be found to be the merest shams; the mockery of Malakoffs and Redans. The gunners who man them will turn out to be paltry bunglers in the handling of their heavy ordnance, as, indeed, they have already proved themselves at Hatteras Inlet, Port Royal, Fort Pickens, and along the Lower Potomac. Their strongest positions, however skillfully commanded, will have neither strength nor skill. These things were to be presupposed of an uncivilized people, and of these they are themselves becoming conscious. They have lost faith in their own defences.

The jockeys of Norfolk are no bolder than the rest. They have environed the town with works of Babylonish magnitude, armed with the first fruits of FLOYD'S grand larceny; they have about the harbor steam floating batteries, steel-plated, and smaller craft of greatly mischievous ablities. It would seem that art could add nothing to these defences to make them indisputably impregnable. But Norfolk is none the less in a panic. Its people have acquired so formidable an appreciation of the power of the loyal North, that no ordinary securities can be depended upon. They demand that the entrance to the harbor be actually sealed by physical impediments against the cruisers which made such short work with Forts Walker and Beauregard. But even if this wish were gratified, and the harbor were converted into a mere stagnating mill-pond, the Norfolscian nerves would not be quieted. They would still see the enemy advancing from the north, or pouring in through the sounds at the south; and in the progress of our military and naval operations, they would discover fresh reasons to doubt the military skill of their leaders, and the safety of their artificial defences. And these salutary misgivings have been implanted by the incidents at Hatteras and Port Royal, which English journals agree in regarding as entirely unproductive. But journalism is nowhere infallible.

The Honor of the Flag.

One cry impulsively leaped to the lips of Englishmen as the news was told of the search of the *Trent*—a cry for the vindication of the "honor of the British flag." The act, seen through the distorted medium of the partisan reports first carried over, seemed to them a wanton wound to English honor. There was no stopping to take the cue from PUFFENDORF or VATTEL—they *felt* strongly and they *spoke* strongly. Public journals and public meetings united in one passionate vow that no insult should fall unredressed on the British flag. The Government was petitioned to see to it that honor was sacredly upheld.

We like this quick, proud jealousy of the national honor. It is the very *vis vitæ* of a noble nation. The flag, too, is its centre and symbol. What emblematic power it has! Though but a bit of bunting, it holds each man's honor and the nation's honor in its folds. This poor rag is a thing spiritualized, glorified—a thing to live for or die for: because it is the very type of the spiritual identity of the nation.

Englishmen, indeed, probably now know that their passionate zeal was needless—that their flag was *not* insulted, that the necessary act on our part was performed with all courtesy and forbearance, and without any of those accompaniments that were as a sting to them. No doubt the affair is vexatious and disagreeable; but it is one of the inevitable contingencies of the war, and never could have happened to England had she not, with indecent haste, entered into the relations she did with the rebellious States.

But—England should know that *we also have a flag to defend!* When the blood went tingling through her veins at what she esteemed an insult to her honor, was it not possible for her to sympathize with kindred feelings on the part of others, wounded in the like way? Is there no sting to *us* that a pirate ship, fresh from the wanton burning of a vessel over which *our* flag waved, was hospitably harbored in the port of Southampton; that, at that very moment, she flaunted the flag of a foul rebellion at her peak and pennant at her main, and was then preparing to take in supplies and arm for a new piratic cruise? It was easy for British journals, when discussing the affair of the *Nashville*, to intrench themselves behind the cold bulwarks of international law, and wantonly toy with "the duty of affording equal hospitality to both parties." How, now, does international law seem to them in the light of the new Yankee interpretation?

Have we no right to be jealous of our flag—our Continental flag? Is it the fit time, when it has been insulted by the most infamous of treasons, and twenty million men, to whom that flag is inspiration and existence, are aroused for the vindication of its honor—is *that* the fit time for Mephistophilian sneers at our cause, for open moral aid and covert material aid to our enemy? One should be a little logical in this world. England's sense of national honor has lately received a lively fillip: can she not allow that others may be touched in the same way? Come, come, John, try to rise for a time out of your insular conceit—purge your purblind eyes, and you may see that we have as much right as you to be jealous of the honor of the flag.

ENGLAND'S NEUTRALITY.—The British Government has pointed out numberless evidences of its amicable feeling toward this country, as an offset to as many outrages it has suffered at our hands. Its catalogue will receive an appropriate addition by inserting the case of the *Nashville*. The Northern States are engaged in peaceful commerce with England, carrying to her shores the bread without which her millions and the millions of Ireland will go nigh to perishing. Our shipping engaged in this munificent errand whitens the seas about the British Islands. Southern insurgents and incendiaries turn loose among these pacific squadrons a pirate, using a stolen ship, to burn, destroy, sink, and plunder at his own malevolent will; and how does England take occasion to demonstrate at once her good will and her impartial neutrality? By furnishing the *Nashville*, when it reaches the Bermudas, with the supplies, without which it would have been unable to reach the intended theatre of its devastations; and when it enters a British port red-handed from the commission of an outrage, the wantonness of which was but an illustrative prelude to its future performances, by renewing its supplies, and giving more absolute perfection to its means of hunting down and destroying American merchantmen. The *Nashville* when she emerges, (if she is to emerge, for there is still doubt,) from Southampton waters on her piratical business, will be to all intents and purposes a *British* privateer, furnished forth by the British Government for the destruction of a friendly commerce.

Let us look at all these matters in the light of common sense. From British ports armed steamers, bearing contraband of war for the rebels, have been permitted to depart under the very eye of authority, without the pretence of interference. Into British ports mail steamers bringing dispatches, contraband of war by the terms of the Royal proclamation, are allowed to come without question. A privateer is protected and provided by the British Government for a fresh cruise of destruction. Such are the evidences of sympathy and maternal kindness England systematically offers, at the moment she reviles us for ingratitude, and questions a most warrantable attempt to enforce neutrality obligations, which she declines to fulfill. Truly, if the deed of Capt. WILKES be not made the occasion of a hostile demonstration, the reason will not be in the affection and tenderness of the mother-country for her offspring, but in considerations quite different in their scope, and far less creditable in character.

Some Additional Points of International Law.

The precedents to which the London *Times* makes an indirect allusion when it says that Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL could not be arrested because they were not officers of the army or navy, are very likely drawn ultimately from certain clauses contained in treaties between European nations, of which the treaty of Utrecht furnishes the most complete exemplar. It is said in this document that all men engaged in the army or navy (*hommes de guerre*) are contraband of war, and can be arrested. This doctrine, though disregarded by England in her war with France, was supported by the majority of writers on international rights during the last century. But modern publicists have improved upon it. They do not limit the right of seizure to military men alone, but apply it to all men engaged in the service of the enemy. Thus D'HAUTEFEUILLE, an extreme advocate of the rights of neutrals, says on this subject, that by military men, we must not understand officers, soldiers and recruits alone, but *all men who have contracted with the belligerent the engagement of serving it during the war.* When such men as these are found on board of neutrals, the belligerent has an uncontrovertible right to look upon them as enemies perpetrating acts of hostility, and to treat them as such. According to this writer's opinion, the name *homme de guerre* does not apply simply to the profession of the man, but to the nature and character of his services. Accordingly, a minister of the Gospel, a lawyer, a merchant, may be as much an object of contraband of war as an admiral, or a general—an opinion which leaves no doubt upon the arrest of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL. The *Times* is then in fault when it professes not to know of any authority which will show them to be contraband of war. Aware as that paper is of the character of these gentlemen and of the nature of their mission, it might have declared their arrest justified as well on the ground of English precedents and "antiquated law," as on the ground of the opinions enunciated by living publicists and writers.

It is to be remarked that D'HAUTEFEUILLE, being a partisan of neutral rights, is, of all European publicists, the one who shows the greatest opposition to belligerent rights, which he curtails as much as possible. But, though many of his views might, in this case, be construed against us, we have no hesitation in saying that, were the case of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL submitted to the test of his doctrines and to the spirit of his works, it would come out triumphantly from that ordeal. There is no need to say here, that the great majority of European publicists who, unlike D'HAUTEFEUILLE, look with impartiality both on belligerent and neutral rights, are on our side. Without going through the tedious recital of their names, let us say that they nearly all agree on this point: that when military men or persons, actually in the service of one of the belligerents, are found on board a neutral ship, they can be taken from her and treated as prisoners of war.

Nor does the opinion expressed by the London *Times*, that the question of seizure on board the *Trent* ought not to have been adjudicated by a naval officer, but brought before a Court of Admiralty, rest on more solid ground. On that subject publicists agree in saying that the arrest of a neutral, being a case of extreme necessity, its detention must be as short as possible. The doctrine governing this case has a twofold aspect: the first is to secure an absolute right of navigation and a complete independence to neutrals; the second is to grant to the belligerent the perfect and absolute right of providing for its own safety, and of doing as much injury to its enemy as possible. Both rights have the same origin and the same value; but they cannot be reconciled; and when they meet one must necessarily destroy the other. "In that case," says LAMPREDI, "belligerents must not detain neutrals longer than it is needed, inasmuch as they exercise a right of collision, and in virtue of an extreme necessity."

Such are some of the reflections suggested by the reading of the article of the London *Times*. We have no doubt that however unexpectedly reasonable its first opinions on the MASON and SLIDELL affair have been, they will improve with time, and that its subsequent discussions will completely justify the course of Capt. WILKES and the position assumed by our Government in this matter.

EFFICIENCY OF THE BLOCKADE.—We hear a great deal about this and that port being inefficiently blockaded, and it can be readily understood that one vessel running the blockade will provoke a great deal more comment and gossip than the capture of a dozen by the ships of our squadron. The truth of this is demonstrated by the published statement of the Secretary of the Navy concerning vessels seized since the commencement of the war. Besides other services performed, the blockading squadron has captured over 160 of the enemy's vessels, and their seizure, while it establishes the general vigilance of our cruisers, amply atones for any damage that our commerce has sustained at the hands of the enemy. Forty-two of our war ships have succeeded in making prizes. The *Minnesota*, at Hampton Roads, has made the most captures; next to her, the *South Carolina*, stationed off Galveston and the mouths of the Mississippi, is able to show the largest number of rebel prizes.

GO TO THE INDIANS.—First of all the Western tribes the Osage Indians have established a Civil Government, by adopting a constitution; and the document, which we find at length in the Lawrence (Kansas) *Republican*, is a striking commentary upon the persistent attempts of the rebels to seduce this nation from its allegiance to the Union. The instrument may be amended, but it is expressly declared that "it shall never be abolished," and Section 8 reads as follows:

"Any person or persons in the Osage Nation whether citizens or not, who shall by *speaking, writing, act or deed*, try to subvert this Constitution and overthrow the Government, shall be deemed *guilty of treason*, and on conviction, suffer death as shall be prescribed by the Legislative Council."

This is a pretty strong definition of treason, and would scarcely suit this latitude; but it vindicates the Osages from any leaning toward secession doctrines.

Cotton Cultivation in India.

The first report of the Commissioner appointed by the Anglo-Indian Government to inquire into the cotton-growing capacity of the great Oriental Peninsula, and the progress of cotton cultivation therein, has been recently published. It is a most able and valuable document; and, though it relates only to the region called the Doab, or the territory between the Jumna and the Ganges, it conclusively demonstrates why the culture of the cotton plant is not extending in India so widely as stay-at-home Britons are led to suppose.

The Doab comprises an area of over 25,000 square miles, and, of all the Indian provinces, is most suited to the production of cotton. It has in general a light, sandy soil, of considerable depth, and great fertility. It is intersected by irrigating canals, whose numerous branches traverse it in every direction. Its population exceeds 350 to the square mile, being more dense than that of Belgium. And yet in this highly favored region, with its rich soil, its abundant labor, its admirable facilities for irrigation, cotton cultivation languishes. Half a century ago the case was otherwise. Then there was a considerable foreign demand, and production spread, and factories and screw-houses started into existence; but, subsequently the foreign demand ceased, cultivation declined, factories and screw-houses went to ruin, and new cotton is grown only for home consumption. Nor can that cry from Lancashire revive its culture. That cry is *vox et præterea nihil.* The emissaries of the Manchester Supply Association are indeed ranging the country, distributing cotton-seed and pamphlets, and telling the ryots of the great trade that will presently spring up, and of the hundreds of thousands of bales that will be wanted. But all this is in vain; for while the planters see their stocks of cotton *rotting* at the marts of Mirzapore and Ghazeepore, and not a *purchaser* among the strangers, they will remain incredulous, and refuse to extend operations. The excessive caution of these Hindoos, in fact, places all cottondom in a most awkward dilemma. Before those barbarians will consent to put their shoulders to the wheel to help the Manchester wagon out of the rut, they must see purchasers, and must pocket remunerative prices. How can the speculator come up to the Indian's terms so long as the value of the article in the Liverpool market is insufficient to cover the cost of transportation to the coast and to England? While such is the case, to buy would be ruinous, and therefore if the home dealer would have cotton cultivation extended in India, according to the measure of England's necessities, he must be content to give a price for the Eastern staple which will save the Asiatic purchaser from loss, and make it possible for him, without sacrifice of his own interests, to accede to the terms of the Hindoo planter. But will the Liverpool speculator do this, while there is a single bale of the old stock remaining in the market? It is not at all probable that he will, and yet no real demand can be created in India for cotton—no demand that will induce the raising of a supply adequate to England's wants, until this point has been conceded by the Lancashire buyer. Then, and not before, will purchasers for the British market, appear in the Doab, and the ryots give the requisite extension to the production of the indispensable staple. European superintendents and European capitalists are doubtless essential to the full development of the cotton capacities of India, but, without a remunerative price in Britain for the article, every attempt to spread its cultivation must result in loss and disaster to all parties concerned, and must discourage every similar undertaking.

Longfellow's Vespers.

The "Vesper service," introduced into the Unitarian Church, by Rev. SAMUEL LONGFELLOW, in 1858, while pastor of the Second Unitarian Church of Brooklyn, seems destined to win wide favor. It was some time since adopted by several of the leading churches of that faith in New-England, and has recently been introduced into Rev. Dr. OSGOOD'S Church, of this City; Dr. FARLEY'S, of Brooklyn; Dr. ELLIOTT'S, of St. Louis; at Alton and Quincy, Illinois, and is welcomed with great heartiness by the Unitarians of old England. The new church at Yonkers, in this State, have also just adopted it. A recent correspondent of the *Christian Register* says: "It seems to most of its friends the most impressive of all orders of worship, and what is remarkable, it interests persons of the most opposite creeds and tempers, from the High Churchman to the Methodist, from the Presbyterian to the Transcendentalist. Yet it is a very simple matter, and all its materials are to be found in the Bible and the Hymn Book." It has filled the churches to overflowing wherever it has been adopted, and the interest in it continues unabated. Mr. LONGFELLOW'S health having failed about a year and a half since, he resigned his charge, which the church very reluctantly granted, as the congregation were much attached to him. He went immediately to Europe, where he still is, and will spend the Winter at Berlin. The church have recently settled Rev. Mr. STAPLES, under the most favorable auspices, as his successor, who bears a remarkable personal resemblance to Mr. LONGFELLOW, and possesses many of his characteristics in manner and spirit.

Mr. LONGFELLOW is a brother of the poet of the same name, and is a man of great religious genius. He is the compiler of a *Book of Hymns*, published by TICKNOR, of Boston, several years since, which has been through several large editions, and he is also the author of several books of poetry, &c.

The vesper service has already made such a remarkable impression wherever it has been heard, that it seems to deserve especial notice, and will no doubt be adopted, with some modifications, by the Trinitarian churches ere long, where the congregations regulate the order of services.

The Amateur Concert.

The lady managers of the Nursery and Child's Hospital state that in consequence of the fact that large numbers of persons were disappointed in obtaining admission to the amateur concert given by them in aid of that Institution, on Thursday evening, it will be repeated on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17. In order to give to those who purchased tickets and were deterred from using them by the crowd, an opportunity to do so, tickets not then presented, or which were returned, will be received. A limited number of new tickets will also be issued, which may be purchased as before from any of the managers.

The amateurs, to whose rare musical talents the concert was indebted for its great success, have kindly consented to lend their services again in further aid of this charitable object; and by the courteous liberality of Mr. CLARK, his house is again offered for the purpose. The concert will take place on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17, at the house of A. B. CLARK, Murray Hill Park, Fourth-avenue, near Thirty-seventh-street. Music at 8 o'clock precisely.

AUNT FANNY'S NIGHTCAPS.—D. APPLETON & Co.—We advise all the children to write a Round Robin of entreaty and send it up all the chimnies to Santa Clause, begging him to put these delightful Nightcap books in their stockings. We only wish some Aunt Fanny had written such books for us when *we* were young.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.—We understand that Mr. ULLMAN has taken the lease of Niblo's Garden, and will open it on the 23d inst. with HERRMANN, the Prestidigitator.

VIEWS FROM THE CAPITAL.

Congress and the Subjects of Confiscation and Emancipation—The Rights of the Government—Ex-Congressman Larabee, &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1861.

There is evidently much confusion of ideas in Congress, and in the country, on the subjects of confiscation and emancipation. The power to confiscate the property of rebels as a punishment of treason, and the power to destroy their property as a means of putting down rebellion and reducing them to obedience to the laws, are wholly different in kind, and stand on different bases. The first is derived from the letter of the Constitution, and is quite limited in its extent; the second results from the great law of self-preservation, and is inherent in governments, as well as in individuals. The one is executed by a process out of the Courts of Law, after the rebellion has been suppressed, as a punishment of crime, and as a terror to evil-doers. The other must be an act of military necessity, justified by the imminent peril of the State. The Constitution limits the punishment of treason, though the highest crime against society, to the individual who commits the offence, and eschews the English doctrine of attainder, which visits the iniquities of the fathers upon the children by confiscating the estate. But it is obvious that the Government, in the repression of rebellion, is bound by no such limitations. It may seize the property of the rebels and use it against them, or it may destroy it, not as a punishment of their crime, but as a means of preserving the Government, by depriving them of their resources.

There can be no necessity for the permanent alienation of the estates of the rebels, and a law of Congress to that effect could have no tendency to reduce them to obedience. On the contrary, they would be prompted to fight the more desperately if it were proclaimed that the loss of their lands and tenements to themselves and their posterity, was to be the consequence of defeat. A law confiscating lands cannot be executed until the rebellion shall be suppressed. It will put no resource at the command of the Government which it does not now possess. It would simply be placing upon the statute book a harsh threat of universal confiscation and exile, to be executed after peace shall be restored, in violation of the plain letter of the Constitution. But the military necessity which compels the destruction of rebel property, including the value of slaves, is liable to no such objection. In the first place, it could only apply to perishable or personal property. It could in no conceivable case touch the permanent tenure of lands. It might destroy houses and fences; it might seize ships and goods, or it might set slaves free, in order to enlist their sympathies against their rebel masters; and thus it might totally destroy Slavery—not as a punishment of rebels by confiscation, by legal process, but simply and purely as a military necessity or expedient, the most obvious and convenient for the preservation of the Government and the suppression of revolt.

Those members of Congress who are discussing sweeping measures of confiscation would do well to re-peruse the remarks of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS on this subject. He nowhere hints at confiscation as a legislative expedient for the abolition of Slavery. On the contrary, he distinctly places the right to abolish Slavery, in a time of slave-holding revlot, on the ground of military necessity or expediency, and calls it the war-making power.

If it be urged that thus far there appears to be no military necessity for the abolition of Slavery, and therefore, that such propositions are wholly unwarranted, I reply that the Government would be fully warranted in abolishing Slavery if there were good reason to believe that that is the most direct way to overthrow the rebel organization, and restore peace and union. A state of war warrants the opposing parties in assailing each other in their weakest points; and that becomes a military necessity which is obviously the most certain and direct way of defeating the enemy. The Government may deem it expedient to forbear the exercise of this power of abolishing Slavery in the rebellious States, out of tenderness to the Border Slave States; but that it has the right, by the law of nations, is too plain to be doubted. On any other theory war becomes child's play, in which it is understood that the parties are not to hurt each other.

I understand that Ex-Congressman CHARLES H. LARABEE, of Wisconsin, is an applicant for a Brigadier-Generalship in the United States Army; and I therefore deem it in point to publish the following letter of his, written just a year ago, which will serve to show the spirit with which he will enter the lists for the preservation of the Union. It seems the Capt. SMITH referred to belongs to the Light-House Board, and that he had the superintendence of the construction of a light-house at Milwaukee. Mr. TAYLOR, to whom the letter is addressed, was a contractor for the supply of timber, to be used in building the light-house. With these preliminaries, I subjoin a copy of the letter which the ungrateful TAYLOR filed with the Government here, as an excuse for non-compliance with his contract:

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1860.

SIR: I have just seen Capt. SMITH. You will lose nothing by a failure to make the first delivery of timber. Capt. S. authorizes me to say this to you. My own advice is not to invest a cent in the matter—for the chances are ten to one that no further prosecution of the work will be had.

The contract for stone will not be let. *The end is near. Prepare for it. This privately.*

Yours, truly, C. H. LARABEE.

JONATHAN S. TAYLOR, Milwaukee.

The publication of this letter may damage the prospects of an appointment of Mr. LARABEE under this Government; and it is a pity that he has marred his brilliant military prospects by stopping at Washington when his chances would have been so much better at Richmond. It seems that Mr. LARABEE was not only willing to give up the Union, but to abandon the commercial interests of his constituents. The end that was thought to be near, was to be the end of Milwaukee, as well as of the General Government.

OBSERVER.

Fine Arts.

Mr. KNOEDLER, successor to GOUPIL & Co., announces that he has received two landscapes by CASILEAR, and two grape pieces by G. H. HALL, which will be added to the fine collection now to be seen at his charming gallery, corner of Ninth-street.

A new picture by GIGNOUX is always a new sensation in the world of Art. There are painters, as there are authors, whom one must follow, and GIGNOUX is decidedly of the number. A recent production, entitled an "Indian Summer in Virginia," was placed on exhibition at SCHAUS' new gallery, No. 749 Broadway, on Saturday. It fills an ample canvas, and is intended for a spacious gallery, being Mr. GIGNOUX's contribution to the World's Fair Exhibition of next year. The subject is well chosen, and cannot fail to challenge the attention of English critics. A peculiar phase of American scenery is presented with a bold, yet poetic scope of affect. The dreamy atmosphere, laden with picturesque spells, and suggesting rather than developing vast expanses of perspective, floats the eye over river and valley to the glimmering distance of a remote hamlet, and thence to silent mountains, wrapt in aerial slumber, whilst in the foreground we have a precipitous cluster of rocks, crowned with the magnificent foliage of Autumn, and all those regal splendors of gold and crimson which the dying year assumes in this and no other country. Mr. GIGNOUX has been peculiarly happy in the contrast which he has thus secured, transcribing at once a double phase of nature without exaggerating either the pendulous characteristic of the air or the gorgeousness of the vegetation. The scene, we are informed, is a transcript from nature, and certainly appeals to the experience of every traveled American. The treatment, we need scarcely add, is all that can be desired. A few more of such pictures cannot fail to make the American section of the World's Picture Gallery one of the most pleasant resorts of the Great Exhibition. The "Autumn in Virginia" will be exhibited at SCHAUS' Gallery until it leaves for London.

It is a difficult matter to make a portrait of a gentleman, or a picture of a gentleman's yacht, an interesting subject to the general spectator. Mr. F. H. DE HAAS has succeeded, however, in accomplishing the latter feat. Those who will take the trouble to step into that artist's studio, at No. 335 Broadway, will see a marine piece so full of breezy life and truthful stir of waters; so carefully handled, yet so boldly effective, that they will scarcely dream it is nothing but a surreptitious portrayal of a gentleman's private yacht, although said yacht shoots visibly through the waves before him. The composition is so excellent that the picture deserves to be regarded as one of the most successful efforts of this rising and very talented artist.

A MYSTERIOUS TRAGEDY.

A Broker is Found in His own Office with His Throat Cut from Ear to Ear.

Coroner's Inquest—Verdict of the Jury—No Clue to the Mystery.

Yesterday, about 10 o'clock A. M., an Exchange Broker, named BERNARD LEVY, one of the firm of L. B. LEVY & SON, of No. 146 Canal-street, under the Citizens' Bank, was found in his own office with his throat cut in a most horrible manner. Life was extinct when he was discovered, though the body was still warm. He lay on the floor behind the counter, stretched out at full length, with one hand extended out at full length, and the other resting upon his breast. The body lay in a large pool of blood, and all his clothes were completely saturated with the vital fluid. On the counter was found the knife with which the deed is supposed to have been committed. The police were immediately notified of the affair, and Capt. DOWLING, of the Sixth Precinct Police, with a squad of men, proceeded to the place, and took charge of the establishment. About the same time. Coroner JACKMAN and Superintendent KENNEDY were notified of the occurrence, and they also attended, and took prompt measures to investigate the facts and circumstances which led to the fearful tragedy. Great crowds of people in the meantime thronged the street in front of the office where the body was found, and for a short time great excitement prevailed throughout all the vicinity. The scene of the occurrence is in Canal-street, three doors from the Bowery, and is one of four offices situated in the large brown stone building which takes in the corner, and nearly one-fourth of the block. The office where the body was found is about twenty feet long by fourteen feet wide, and as we have stated, was used as an exchange broker's office. The space between the counter and wall, where the body was found, is about four feet wide, and the counter was of such a height that a person walking into the room could not naturally see anything lying on the floor behind the counter, without leaning forward. Nothing was found to have been disarranged in the office, and large quantities of bills and coin were in the show window and on the shelves back of the counter, at the time the body was discovered.

But the most mysterious circumstance connected with the affair, is the fact that the knife supposed to have been used in the commission of the crime, was found closed, and laid upon the counter in front of where the body was found. There was no blood upon the counter, and in fact there was no blood found anywhere, except upon the floor, upon the deceased's right hand, upon his clothing, and around his neck.

At about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Dr. J. BEACH, of the Coroner's office, proceeded to make a *post-mortem* examination of the body. The examination was made at the Sixth Precinct Station-house, whither the body was conveyed by the Police soon after its discovery. An examination of the wound demonstrated the fact that, if the man had cut his own throat, he must have held the knife in his right hand, and that the first stroke of the knife was made across the jugular vein and on the left side of his neck. That, after this stroke, he must have plunged the point of the knife in through the windpipe toward the right side of the neck. Both carotid arteries were cut, the windpipe severed—the wound extending entirely back to the vertebra—all of which showed that the operator had determined to perform his work most thoroughly. It is believed that he must have died instantly.

At about 4 o'clock, Coroner JACKMAN summoned a Jury, and an inquest was held upon the body:

Oliver H. Mooney was the first witness sworn, who testified that he was yesterday morning in the office adjoining that of the deceased; that he heard a sound of something falling, and that about twenty minutes thereafter his attention was called to the circumstance of the sound by seeing a crowd around the door; heard no other sounds, and did not see any one go in or out of that office yesterday morning.

David Levy, brother of deceased, testified that he resided at No. 77 Third-street; went down with deceased to the office that morning; deceased went behind the counter to unpack the money; a neighbor, named Wagner, came in to ask about some German exchange; witness went out to get a newspaper and a cigar; on his return asked his brother for some bills to go down to the Commissary's department; received the bills and went there, and from thence went to Canal-street and purchased some foreign coin, and proceeded to the Quartermaster's department and transacted some business; when returning toward his office he met two men, who told him that his father's throat was cut; thought it could not be his father, as he does not come down on Saturday; on reaching the office, a policeman told him his brother was dead; never saw the knife found in the office before to-day; deceased's health was changeable, but he was never seriously ill; he never threatened to commit suicide; a woman named Louisa Breidsback threatened that her husband would not care if he killed him, (deceased;) she endeavored to extort $20 from deceased to get to Cincinnati with, he having placed her in a bad position with her husband; this woman, though said to be married, witness did not believe to be so; the threat was made two months ago, but witness never talked to her; deceased made no complaint to witness about her attempted extortion; she threatened him both in witnesses' presence and when alone with him; witness did not believe that deceased committed suicide; there is no property missing known to be in the possession of deceased; two checks are missing, but they may be found; deceased was fond of women, but temperate in his habits; he never drank liquor but perhaps once a week; he was of a lively disposition; this Louisa Breidsback stated that her husband did not care for his life if he could take deceased's life; she used to live in Fifth-street, but does not now; she once brought a man to the office to whom she pointed out deceased; she afterwards called and stated that deceased had seduced her.

John Daly, letter-carrier, testified as follows: I went to Levy's office this morning, about twenty minutes to ten; I had a letter for them; saw no one when I went in; knocked on the counter, then turned to the door and walked out; thought it strange the place should be left alone; I waited outside, when Mr. H. Hahn came along and was going in; I told him there was no one inside; soon another man came; told him also, but he walked in and soon came out again.

H. Hahn's testimony was to the effect that he went into LEVY & SON's Office, and while at the door going in, was told by a man that no one was inside; he walked in and came out again soon after; while standing there outside the door, he looked through the window and saw a man lying dead on the floor; the knife was shut and lying on the counter when I went in.

Officer Kaveny, of the Sixth Ward, testified that while patrolling his beat he was informed that a man was lying dead in an Exchange Office in Canal-street; went there and found the doors closed but unlocked; found the knife closed and lying on the counter.

Dr. Beach, who made the *post mortem*, testified that the wound was apparently inflicted by thrusting a knife into the right side of the neck, and drawing it to the left, severing the principal arteries, and laying the muscular tissue open as far back as the vertebra.

At about half-past seven o'clock last evening the jury came in with a verdict to the effect that they were unable to determine by whom the wounds were inflicted. The Coroner declined to surrender the body to the family of the deceased for burial last evening, but directed that it be kept in the Sixth Precinct Station House until further orders from him. He is determined to investigate the case still further, and if possible ascertain who was the perpetrator of the deed.

The deceased was about 25 years of age, and unmarried. He came to this country about eight years ago from Bockenheim, a small town near Frankfort-on-the-Maine. He resided with his father in Third-street, in this City. His father was informed of the occurrence while attending the Jewish Synagogue in Thirteenth-street. The reputation of the deceased among his social and business acquaintances was good.

There are several detectives detailed for the purpose of ferreting out all the facts and circumstances attending this unfortunate affair.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

ANOTHER SLICE FROM THE CITY HALL PARK.—Workmen were engaged throughout Friday in setting posts and putting up a high board fence in the Park, commencing at the western boundary of the grounds taken for the new City Hall, and running along Chambers-street to within about twenty feet of Broadway, with a depth of about 150 feet. Many supposed that ground was to be broken for a new engine-house, which had been petitioned for in that location, and which the Common Council at one time seemed disposed to grant. It has, however, been ascertained that the inclosure, which was to be sheltered by a temporary roof, is for the accommodation of the marble cutters for the new Court-house, who will soon commence work, and who will be employed all Winter. The weather has been so favorable, thus far, the Commissioners have been enabled to push on the work beyond their expectations, and the amount of labor already performed shows how much can be accomplished by many hands judiciously employed.

FIRE IN A STABLE—A VALUABLE HORSE BURNED.—Between 2 and 3 o'clock Friday morning a fire occurred in a building occupied by HENRY REICHERS as a stable, and dwelling-house, situated in the rear of No. 196 Eighth-avenue. A valuable horse belonging to Mr. REICHERS was burned to death. The building was damaged to the extent of $500. JAMES JOHNSON and JOHN LEARY were arrested by a Sergeant of the Sixteenth Precinct Police, on suspicion of setting fire to the building. They were taken before Justice QUACKENBUSH yesterday and committed.

SUDDEN DEATH OF AN ATTACHE OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.—Mr. LEWIS HOPKINS, a young gentleman aged about 24, for many years a clerk in the Mayor's office and in the office of the Commissioners of Health, died yesterday, after an illness of less than forty hours, his death being caused by diphtheria. Mr. HOPKINS was a young gentleman of very fine personal appearance, courteous and amiable in his manners, and his sudden death in the very flower of his youth has cast a gloom over a large circle of friends.

WEEKLY REPORT OF THE NEW-YORK HOSPITAL to Dec. 13, 1861:

	Surgical.	Medical.	Total.
Remaining on Dec. 6	142	133	275
Admitted to Dec. 13	40	26	66
Discharged, cured or relieved	28	21	49
Died	2	2	4
Remaining at date	152	136	288

Males, 263; females, 25.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW-ENGLAND SOCIETY.—We learn that the New-England Society will celebrate their fifty-sixth anniversary as usual by a Dinner at the Astor House, on Monday the 23d inst. Prominent men, civil and military, as well as the Governors of all the States, have been invited. It is expected to be an occasion of unusual interest.

SALE OF A PRIZE CARGO OF TURPENTINE.—Messrs. WHITTEMORE & HAZELL, sold at auction, yesterday, at the Union Docks, Brooklyn, fifteen hundred and eight barrels of turpentine, the prize cargoes of the ships *Nightingale* and *H. C. Brooks*, at very full prices, particulars of which will be found in our commercial columns.

"WASHINGTON AND THE UNION."—Rev. JOSEPH B. WAKELEY will deliver a lecture upon the above theme before the New-York Young Men's Christian Association, at the Cooper Institute, on Tuesday evening next.

FIRE IN AVENUE A.—At 5 o'clock last evening, a fire broke out in the tenement-house No. 298 Avenue A, caused by a child lighting some shavings. The damage sustained was trifling.

HARD TIMES.—Messrs. E. H. LUDLOW & CO, sold at their sale of old wines of the Lawrence estate, Madeira at $30 a gallon and Brandy at $11.

Fair for the Benefit of Volunteers' Children.

We would call the attention of all patriotic citizens to the worthy cause appealing to their patronage in the fair for the benefit of the "Union Home," which is now progressing in the large building lately occupied as an importing house, just opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.

The Union Home, to which the proceeds of this exhibition are to be devoted, has been established but a few months, and already numbers seventy-five little inmates whose fathers are enlisted in the Union army.

The grand feature of attraction during the ensuing week will be the opening of the New-England kitchen, with all the antiquated appointments of a century back.

Some of the articles of furniture and costumes have once belonged to historical personages, and are loaned the managers in order to increase the interest which must pertain to the support of a refuge for children who are orphaned by the war.

Arrivals in the City.

Capt. MARTIN, of H. B. M. gunboat *Landrail*, is at the Clarendon Hotel.

Charles G. Meyers, Attorney-General of this State, from Ogdensburgh; Hon. A. S. Upham, of Leroy; Hon. Philip Dorsheimer, State Treasurer, from Buffalo; Capt. Garland, of the United States Marine Corps; and Capt. J. W. Stanley and lady, of Rochester, are at the Astor House.

Judge Sherman, of Newburgh; Judge Muller, of Rochester; C. A. Downes, of the U. S. Navy; A. Godillot, of Paris; and Dr. How, of Boston, are at the Fifth-avenue Hotel.

Hon. O. V. Brainard, of Watertown; E. P. Ross, of Auburn; Capt. Day, of Norwich; L. C. Hopkins, of Ohio; Lt. Bradford, of the U. S. Army; J. Crook, of Philadelphia; and C. G. Noble, of Baltimore, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Col. H. M. Day, of Chicago; A. Piper, of the U. S. A.; W. H. Brown and lady, of Rhode Island, and D. W. Hughes and K. Yarnard, of the U. S. A., are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

T. G. Appleton, Charles M. Walcot, Wm. Reed and G. M. Dexter, of Boston, and Dr. Okie, W. R. Okie and Charles G. King, of Providence, are at the Brevoort House.

Capt. Massey and Lieut. Stevenson, of H. B. M. army, stationed in Canada, are at the Albemarle Hotel.

Medical Lectures to Ladies—By Mrs. E. K. ROBERTS, (a practicing Physician,) every MONDAY and THURSDAY, at her residence, No. 79 West 38th-st., commencing always at 2 o'clock. Mrs. ROBERTS devotes her practice specially to all diseases of women, and furnishes to her patients all necessary medicines and remedies. Ample accommodations at her house for chronic patients and ladies during confinement. Personal consultations *free*; advice by letter, $1.

A Splendid Assortment of Gents' Wool and Silk Undergarments for Winter wear, Army, Navy and Traveling Shirts, Knit Wool Jackets, as also a complete variety of fine Shirts, Collars, Hosiery, Gloves, Scarfs, Ties, etc., at retail by SILLECK & CO., corner Fulton and William sts.

Aquaria, for Holiday Presents, at No. 480 Broadway, near Broome-st.; a great variety of patterns on hand; also, a large assortment of fish, plants, &c., at wholesale and retail. DAVIS & GREENWOOD, No. 480 Broadway.

Undergarments for Men, Women and Children at McLAUGHLIN'S old stand, corner of Greenwich and Murray sts. Winter Gloves, Army Shirts, &c. T. McLAUGHLIN, Agent.

At Half Price.

COATS, OVERCOATS, PANTS, and VESTS,

From the stock of three broken wholesale houses,

At EVANS', 66 and 68 Fulton-st., bet. Gold and Cliff.

At Retail,

Wholesale stock of WATCHES and MUSICAL BOXES.

This latter article is one of the best FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

They play from 1 to 24 different tunes, and cost from $2 to $250. M. J. PAILLARD, Importer, No. 21 Maiden-lane, (up stairs,) New-York.

The Best Books for Holiday Presents.—Beautifully bound ENGLISH BIBLES, UNITED STATES EPISCOPAL PRAYER BOOKS, CHURCH SERVICES, &c., in endless variety of size and price. PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS in elegant styles. EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, No. 626 Broadway, New-York.

Fancy Boxes, for Holiday Presents, of the LATEST IMPORTATION and in GREAT VARIETY, at war prices, filled with fine and pure candies, at SNOW'S GREAT CONFECTIONERY, No. 623 Broadway.

Root's New Rooms.—"What a lovely place," say the ladies, while having "Cartes de Visites, Photographs and Daguerreotypes" taken, at No. 179 5th av. and No. 949 Broadway.

Postage Stamps bought and sold, in large or small quantities, by ROBERTSON & CO., Commission Agents, Nos. 84 and 86 Nassau-st., Rooms Nos. 7 and 9,

Winter Style, or Festival Hat for 1862, is this day offered for inspection and sale by ESPENSCHEID, manufacturer of Gents' Hats, No. 118 Nassau-st.

DIED.

FROST.—In this City, on Thursday, Dec. 12, PHEBE P., wife of David Frost, aged 42 years and 5 months.

The relatives and friends of the family, and of her son-in-law, Wm. T. Bolles, also the members of the 30th-st. M. E. Church, are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, on Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M., without further invitation. Her remains will be taken to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Newark, N. J., for interment.

LUDLOW.—In this City, on Saturday, Dec. 14, after a lingering illness, EZRA LUDLOW, Sr., in the 78th year of his age.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, No. 20 Amity-place, on Monday morning, 16th inst., at 10 o'clock.

OGILVIE.—In this City, the wife of Thomas Ogilvie, aged 34 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, No. 286 West 34th-st., on Monday, at 10 o'clock A. M. The remains will be taken to Poughkeepsie for interment.

HEARTT.—In this City, on Saturday morning, Dec. 14, MARIA, wife of Capt. Abraham Heartt, in the 68th year of her age.

The funeral will take place at 9 A. M. on Monday, from her late residence, No. 158 West 16th-st. The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend, without further notice. Her remains will be taken to Tarrytown for interment.

ALBERT.—On Saturday, Dec. 14, after a lingering illness, SUSAN, beloved wife of William Albert, in the 45th year of her age.

Due notice of her funeral will be given in Monday's paper.

SNOW.—On Thursday, Dec. 12, CHARLES H. SNOW, aged 21 years, 1 month and 23 days.

His relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this day, (Sunday,) 15th inst., at 1 P. M., from the residence of his father, James G. Snow, JAVA-st., Greenpoint.

HOWELL.—In Frederick, Md., on Thursday, Dec. 12, ISAAC HOWELL, of Company E, Ninth Regiment, N. Y. S. M., aged 17 years, 7 months and 21 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from the residence of his father, Thomas Howell, No. 204 West 30th-st., on Monday afternoon, at 1½ o'clock, without further invitation. His remains will be taken to New-York Bay Cemetery for interment.

MCHUGH.—In Alexandria, Va., on Friday, Dec. 13, FRANCIS J. MCHUGH, Sr., Captain Thirty-seventh Regiment, N. Y. S. V.

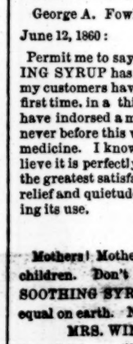
Particulars of funeral in Monday's papers.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS OF MURRAY, EDDY & CO.'S KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.

KENTUCKY, EXTRA CLASS 643.—Dec. 13, 1861.
75, 21, 77, 50, 62, 35, 4, 3, 74, 26, 73, 29, 63.

KENTUCKY, CLASS 644.—Dec. 13, 1861.
67, 12, 69, 2, 23, 46, 1, 51, 21, 24, 15, 7.

Circulars sent free of charge by addressing either to MURRAY, EDDY & CO., Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.



WIGS AND TOUPEES.

ORNAMENTAL HAIR—ALL KINDS.

HAIR DYE—BEST IN USE.

HAIR DYEING—ALL COLORS.

MOLDAVIA CREAM, for preserving, beautifying and forcing the hair to grow.

All these articles can be found, in greatest perfection, at W. A. BATCHELOR'S celebrated establishment, No. 16 Bond-st.

JOHN HOOPER & CO.,

CITY AND COUNTRY ADVERTISING AGENTS,

No. 41 Park-row, New-York,

New-York *Times* Building.

J. H. & Co. are inserting advertisements in all Newspapers published in the United States and British Provinces. A careful selection of papers is made, adapted to any business, and the ADVERTISING is done in the best possible manner, saving time, trouble and expense to the advertiser. MERCHANTS, BANKERS, BROKERS, STEAMSHIP and RAILROAD AGENTS, and business men generally, wishing to extend their trade, are respectfully invited to call at the office, No. 41 Park-row, and examine papers and prices.

Nearly all newspapers published throughout the country are received and filed at this office.

REFERENCES.—Messrs. H. J. Raymond & Co., publishers of the New-York *Times*, and the publishers of the leading newspapers throughout United States and Canada.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO MOTHERS.—Mrs. WINSLOW, an experienced nurse and female physician, has a Soothing Syrup for children teething which greatly facilitates the process of teething, by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation—will allay all pain, and is sure to regulate the bowels. Depend upon it, mothers, it will give rest to yourselves and relief and health to your infants. Perfectly safe in all cases.

Millions of bottles are sold every year in the United States. It is an old and well-tried remedy.

George A. Fowler, of Guilford, writes under date of June 12, 1860:

Permit me to say to you, that Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has an unprecedented sale with me since my customers have ascertained its merits. This is the first time, in a thirty-five years' drug business, that have indorsed a medicine for intrinsic good qualities. never before this wrote a recommendation of any patent medicine. I know not what its composition is, but I believe it is perfectly harmless and safe. I know it gives the greatest satisfaction to parents and nurses, affording relief and quietude, without any unpleasant effects attending its use. Yours, respectfully, GEORGE A. FOWLER.

Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!! An old nurse for children. Don't fail to procure Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for Children Teething. It has no equal on earth. No mother who has ever tried

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP

For Children will ever consent to let her child pass through the distressing and critical period of teething without the aid of this invaluable preparation. If life and health can be estimated by dollars and cents, it is worth its weight in gold.

Millions of bottles are sold every year in the United States. It is an old and well-tried remedy.

David Miller, of Clarence, New-York, writes, under date of June 13, 1860:

We have a child three months old, which has screamed almost incessantly with a spasmodic affection of the bowels, so that we had despaired of ever raising it. Its stomach was sour, bowels deranged, and almost every symptom was unfavorable, until we obtained a bottle of the SOOTHING SYRUP, which acted like a charm. It immediately became quiet, and now manifests every symptom of improvement and comfort. It is now as good as a little kitten, playful and smiling, and seems entirely well. All of which we ascribe to the use of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. Yours, respectfully, DAVID MILLER.

We have spoken of this Syrup for the benefit of our readers who are parents. We know its good value, and have experienced some of the rich blessings which result from its use. Mrs. Winslow is no quack, but a woman of long experience as a nurse and female physician.

"I am happy to be able to certify to the efficiency of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, and to the truth of what it is represented to accomplish. Having a little boy suffering greatly from teething, who could not rest, and at night by his cries would not permit any of the family to do so, I purchased a bottle of the Soothing Syrup. Its effect upon him was like magic; he soon went to sleep, and all pain and nervousness disappeared. We have had no trouble with him since, and the little fellow will pass through with comfort the excruciating process of teething, by the sole aid of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. Every mother who regards the health and life of her children, should possess it. MRS. H. A. ALGER.

LOWELL, Mass.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS AND IMITATIONS

None genuine unless the fac-simile of CURTIS & PERKINS, New-York, is on the outside wrapper.

Sold by Druggists throughout the world.

Principal Office, No. 13 CEDAR-ST., NEW-YORK.

Price only 25 cents per bottle.

GREENWICH, N. J., Aug. 7, 186 [illegible]

Messrs. John I. Brown & Son, Boston, Mass.:

DEAR SIRS: I have been using your "Bronchial Troches" for a year or two. I find them to answer an excellent purpose. They have frequently proved a great relief to me when annoyed with dryness of the throat and huskiness of voice. I have no doubt they are quite as valuable to public speakers as MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is for children.

I at least have been soothed and comforted in the use of them. I can heartily recommend them.

(Signed,) J. R. PLITT, Pastor Evangelical Lutheran Church.

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS.

D. APPLETON & CO., Nos. 443 and 445 Broadway, PUBLISH A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS, BOUND IN SUPERB BINDINGS, SUITABLE FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS, THEY IMPORT, BY EVERY STEAMER, FRENCH ALBUMS, WHICH ARE SOLD AT LOW PRICES.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

D. APPLETON & CO., Nos. 443 and 445 Broadway, HAVE NOW READY THEIR HOLIDAY LIST OF ILLUSTRATED BOOKS, PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS, CARTES DE VISITE. Among the Gift Books are: MORAL EMBLEMS, WIT AND HUMOR OF THE POETS, SHAKESPEARE. Cowden Clarke's Edition. THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

A complete Catalogue sent to any address on application

FELONS REMOVED WITHOUT PAIN OR cutting, by the use of a certain ointment to be procured from the advertiser. A sure speedy cure of worst cases guaranteed. Thousands who pass sleepless nights from this most painful disease can obtain instant relief at a trifling cost. Price 50 cents per box. Apply at No. 405 Grand-st., in the fancy-store.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

"A CAREFUL PERUSAL HAS CONVINCED US THAT IT IS A GREAT BOOK, IN INCIDENT, PLOT, DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERIZATION, AND THAT IT IS WORTHY TO BE READ BY EVERYBODY WHO READS EVERYTHING WRITTEN BY SUCH AUTHORS AS DICKENS, THACKERAY AND BULWER.

* * * * * * * *

IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR US, IN A SHORT NOTICE LIKE THIS, TO GIVE THE SLIGHTEST INDICATION OF THE WEALTH OF LIFE AND CHARACTER THE AUTHOR HAS INCLUDED IN HIS PRESENT MASTERPIECE. IT IS SUFFICIENT TO SAY, THAT THE BEST, BRIGHTEST AND DEEPEST QUALITIES OF HIS GENIUS ARE IN THIS WORK, AND THAT HE HAS WRITTEN NOTHING WHICH WILL BE SO SURE TO GIVE HIM A PROMINENT POSITION AMONG ENGLISH NOVELISTS AS THIS 'CLOISTER AND THE HEARTH.'"

Thus one of the first American critics speaks, in the Boston *Transcript*, of CHARLES READE'S GREAT NOVEL, THE CLOISTER AND THE HEARTH.

which is having such an enormous sale throughout the length and breadth of the land.

CARLETON, Publisher, (late Rudd & Carleton,) NEW-YORK.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY,
A NEW VOLUME,
Commences with the Number for JANUARY, 1862.

The January number, containing sixteen extra pages, commences the Ninth Volume of this Magazine. It presents the following striking list of articles and authors:

A New BIGLOW PAPER, by JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, entitled "Birdofredum Sawin, Esq., to Mr. Hosea Biglow."

METHODS OF STUDY IN NATURAL HISTORY, the first of Prof. AGASSIZ's articles.

OLD AGE, by RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

PILGRIMAGE TO OLD BOSTON, by NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A STRENGTH SEEKER, by Dr. GEORGE B. WINDSHIP, whose gymnastic exploits and feats of strength have made him celebrated throughout the country. In this article he gives a most graphic account of his system of physical training, and a detailed description of the various steps of his progress.

FREMONT'S HUNDRED DAYS IN MISSOURI, by WILLIAM DORSHEIMER, late Military Secretary to Gen. Fremont, and Major upon his Staff. This admirable paper gives much new information, never before given to the country, upon the doings and plans of Gen. Fremont in Missouri.

LOVE AND SKATES, the opening portion of a new story, by the late Maj. THEODORE WINTHROP, author of "Cecil Dreeme."

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER, a critical and personal account of our great American Novelist, by GEORGE S. HILLARD.

AGNES OF SORRENTO, the fine Italian Romance, by Mrs. H. B. STOWE.

A STORY OF TO-DAY, by the author of "Life in the Iron Mills." A graphic picture of American Life.

JEFFERSON AND SLAVERY, by Prof. A. D. WHITE, of the University of Michigan. An eloquent exposition of Jefferson's opinions against Slavery.

LIGHT LITERATURE, by DAVID A. WASSON, author of "Rest and Motion."

PER TENEBRAS, LUMINA, a Poem.

THE TRUE HEROINE, a Poem.

REVIEWS AND LITERARY NOTICES.

THE ATLANTIC FOR 1862.

The NINTH VOLUME commences with the number for JANUARY, 1862.

No words are needed respecting the past of this Magazine. Its conducters have the most gratifying assurances of public approval, both in its largely increased circulation, and in the testimony from all quarters as to its excellence. They are, however, desirous of giving to it a still higher character and an increased popularity, during the year 1862; and, with that view, they have provided features of extraordinary interest.

Prof. LOUIS AGASSIZ, of Harvard University, will contribute a series of articles upon THE STUDY OF NATURAL HISTORY and kindred topics. He will have an article in every number during the year.

Early in the year will be commenced a new ROMANCE by NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE, the author of "The Scarlet Letter," "The Marble Faun," etc.

Articles upon topics of national interest will appear frequently from the pen of JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

A series of Tales will be contributed, during the year, by the author of "Life in the Iron Mills," and "A Story of To-Day," which, in point of genius and power, have taken a place beside the most prominent works of fiction of the present day.

The COUNTRY PARSON will continue his highly popular contributions.

STORIES by Miss HARRIET PRESCOTT, BAYARD TAYLOR, and other popular writers will shortly appear.

The leading writers of America, in prose and poetry, and several English authors of note, contribute regularly to the *Atlantic*. Among them may be named the following:

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.	CHARLES E. NORTON.
HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.	GEORGE S. HILLARD.
RALPH WALDO EMERSON.	HENRY GILES.
NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.	Rev. WALTER MITCHELL.
C. C. HAZEWELL.	Mrs. H. B. STOWE.
F. W. HIGGINSON.	HARRIET MARTINEAU.
AUTHOR of "Life in the Iron Mills," and "Story of To-Day."	CHARLES READE.
	"THE COUNTRY PARSON."
	ROSE TERRY.
OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.	HARRIET E. PRESCOTT.
JOHN G. WHITTIER.	Rev. ROBERT T. S. LOWELL.
E. P. WHIPPLE.	J. T. TROWBRIDGE.
BAYARD TAYLOR.	

TERMS—Three Dollars per annum, or Twenty-five Cents a number. Upon the receipt of the subscription price, the publishers will mail the work to any part of the United States, prepaid. Subscriptions may begin with either the first or any subsequent number.

TICKNOR & FIELDS, Publishers, No. 135 Washington-st., Boston, Mass.

BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL.
BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL.

THE ELECTIC MAGAZINE.
FOR JANUARY, 1862,
Is ready Dec. 12.

It is embellished with TWO SPLENDID PLATES.

1. BATTLE OF BUNKER'S HILL, with a letter-press description from the pen of HON. EDWARD EVERETT.
2. THE WIFE OF BUNYAN BEFORE LORD MANSFIELD'S COURT.

The number is filled with a rich table of contents, both instructive and entertaining.

The artistic embellishments, and the literary treasures, are exceedingly attractive.

A WORD ABOUT ITS CHARACTER.

1. The ECLECTIC, as a monthly magazine, of 144 pages, double columns, has no superior in literary merit or artistic embellishments.
2. Its letter-press is made up of the choicest articles, selected with great care from seven British Quarterlies and nine

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange...Dec. 14, 1861

$8,000	U.S. 6s, '81..Reg.	89¾	150	Pac. Mail. St. Co...	87
4,000	U. S. 6s, '81..Cou.	92¾	50	do.....s30	87
4,000	U. S. 5s, '74..Cou.	82½	50	do.....b10	87⅛
2,000	U. S. 5s, '65...	93	355	do.....	87¾
2,000	Or. W. Ln. ½ y'rly	90½	100	do.....b10	87¾
1,000	Ohio State 6s, '60.	92¾	65	do.....	88
1,000	Ill. Cou. Bs., '77.	82	50	do.....s30	87⅛
3,000	Ill. Cou. Bs. '79.	82	50	do.....s60	87⅛
1,000	Mich. State 6s...	83	200	N. Y. Cen. R.....s30	78
5,000	Tenn. St. 6s, '90..	42½	348	do.....	78⅛
5,000	do.....	42¾	65	do.....	78⅝
9,000	do.....	43	400	do.....	78¾
5,000	Ind. State 5s.....	77	200	Erie R. Ppref.....	63¾
6,000	Mo. 6s 1ss. to H. & St. J. R.....	48	50	Harlem R. Pref.b30	29⅜
5,000	do.....b60	48¾	50	do.....	29¾
1,000	La. State 6s.....	58	100	do.....	29¾
2,000	California St. 7s.	81½	150	do.....b60	29⅞
5,000	Brook. C. W. L.	97	50	Mich. Cen. R.....c	49⅜
2,000	N.Y.C.B.'76,C.B.	101	9	Mich. So. & N. I. R.	18
3,000	M. So. s. f. bds...	78	150	do.....	18¾
500	Ill. Cen. R. bds..	88	100	M. S. & N. I. G. S...	39
5,000	C. & Tol. s. f. bds.	78	50	do.....s10	39
1,000	G. & Chi. 1st mtg.	90	50	do.....s10	39⅛
20	Bank of Commerce.	80½	50	do.....b60	39⅜
40	do.....	80	350	do.....	39¼
9	Am. Ex. Bank.....	81	50	Ill. Cen. R. Scrip...	60⅝
10	St. Nicholas Bank..	72¼	50	Gal. & Chic. R.s60	70½
300	Erie Railway....s30	31½	100	do.....b30	71
150	do.....	31⅝	50	do.....c	71
450	Harlem Railroad...	11¾	50	do.....b30	71½
400	do.....b30	11⅞	550	Cleveland & Tol. R.	33¼

SECOND BOARD.

$3,000	U. S. 6s, '81..Cou.	92⅞	50	N. Y. Cen. R.....s30	78
10,000	do.....	92¾	50	do.....s10	78⅛
9,000	U. S. 6s, '81..Reg.	89	25	do.....b60	78⅜
3,000	Missouri State 6s	41	50	Erie Railway.....s30	31⅛
10,000	Tenn. State 6s, '90	43¼	50	do.....b30	31⅞
5,000	do.....	43½	100	do.....b15	31⅜
1,000	L. E. & W. 1st M. B.	73	100	do.....b3	31⅜
3,000	N. Ind. 1st Mtg..	83	50	Hud. River R.....	37¾
25	Michigan Cen. R...	49½	75	Harlem R.....	12
50	do.....	49¾	50	Harlem R. Pref.....	29⅜
50	Pacific M. S. Co...s60	87	14	Mich. So. & N. I. G. S.	38¾
50	do.....s30	87⅛	25	Panama Railroad...	115
5	do.....	87⅜	50	Gal. & Chic. R..s30	71
50	Ill. Cen. R. Scrip...	60⅝	100	Clev. & Tol. R.....	33⅛
100	do.....b10	60¾	25	Mil. & P. D. C. 2d Pref.	60

SATURDAY, Dec. 14—P. M.

The Stock Market ruled generally firm to-day, and closed on a good demand for the leading Railways. The course of Foreign Exchange to the Specie point, and the correspondence understood to be going on between the Associated Banks and the Secretary of the Treasury, have induced the belief that some important change in the basis of Currency and Deposits is nearly pending, and the inference generally drawn on the Stock Exchange is, that it will relieve the market of all concern as to the Money wants of the Government and the future course of the Bank movement, so far as it relates to either the Treasury or the Mercantile demand for accommodation. At the close of the Stock dealings this afternoon the following bids were made, after considerable sales of New-York Central at 78⅞@¾, and of Erie at 31¾ ℔ cent.:

Central	78⅜	Mich. Guaranteed	39½
Erie	31¾	Michigan Southern	18½
Erie Preferred	53¾	Pacific	87½
Rock Island	60⅝	Panama	114½
Toledo	33¼	U. S. 6s, 1881	93

The following are the bids to-day for the City Bank shares:

Merchants'	82	American Exchange	81
Mechanics'	90	Hanover	68
Union	81	Market	82
America	98	Nassau	81
City	103¼	Shoe and Leather	84
Phenix	90	Continental	65
Commerce	80	St. Nicholas	72½
Broadway	112	Importers' & Traders'	91

And the following for the Railway Mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. sixes	91	Ill. Cen. 7 ℔ c., '75	87½
N. Y. Cen. sevens, '64..100	3/4	T. H. & A. firsts, 7 ℔ c.	70¾
N. Y. Cen. sevens, '76.	101	T. H. & A. sec., 8 ℔ c. '70.	28
Erie thirds, '90	84	L. C. & Mil. L. G. Bds.	12½
Erie fourths, 80	73	Chi. & N. W. s. f. 1st 2d s.	30
Erie fifths, '88	68¼	Han. & St. Jo. firsts	30
B., N. Y. & Erie firsts	72	Gal. & Ch. firsts	99
Hudson seconds, s. f., '85	97	L. E. & Wabash firsts.	72¼
Reading Bonds '86	70	L. E. & Wabash seconds	45
Mich. Cen. 8 ℔ c. '69-'72	90	D. Lack. & West. firsts.	96
Mich. C. n. f., 8 ℔ c., '82.	92	Clev. & Tol. firsts, s. f.	78
M. S. & N. In. s. f. 7 ℔ c	77½	Long Dock Bonds	90
Pacific guar. by M....	38	Pra. Du. Ch. 1st pref...	77

The Sub-Treasury receipts, to-day, were $2,053,219, including $32,188 for Treasury Notes, and $60,000 for Customs; Payments, $1,278,592, including redeemed 6 ℔ cent. Notes. Balance this afternoon, $7,776,661.

Philadelphia Stock Board.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 14.

Stocks dull. Pennsylvania State Fives, 78⅝; Reading Railroad, 19; Morris Canal, 35; Long Island Railroad, 9¼; Pennsylvania Railroad, 37⅛. Exchange on New-York at par.

GENERAL MARKETS.

NEW-YORK, Saturday, Dec. 14, 1861—6 P. M.

The reported receipts of the principal kinds of Produce, since our last, have been: 12 bbls. Ashes, 13,124 bbls. Flour, 7,975 bushels Wheat, 904 bushels Rye, 42,853 bushels Oats, 470 bushels Malt, 4,140 packages Provisions, 1,125 bbls. Whisky.

ASHES—Sales 70 bbls. at $5 56¼ for Pots, and $5 50 for Pearls, 100 ℔ lbs. Stock in the Inspection Warehouse, this morning, 866 bbls., including 254 bbls. Pots, and 612 bbls. Pearls.

COFFEE—Sales, 3,500 mats Ceylon (including all in first hands) on private terms, and 200 bags Laguayra at 19c. @ 21½c., ℔ lb.

COTTON—Is in good request, and is quoted at 35c. @ 36c. for Middling, ℔ lb. The reported sales reach 2,000 bales. Toward the close holders were asking much higher rates, and the market was quite excited.

FLOUR AND MEAL—The market for state and Western Flour exhibits more activity, the demand from export buyers having improved. Receipts have been limited. Prices have not varied much. The reported sales since our last have been 19,250 bbls., including superfine State at $5 40@$5 50; inferior to choice extra State at $5 62½ @$5 90; mainly at $5 65@$5 70; rejected do., do., at $5 20@$5 40; Superfine Western, inferior to choice, at $5 40@$5 50; extra Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois, at $5 60@$6 30; extra Indiana and Michigan, at $5 65@$6 40; inferior extra Ohio, at $5 80@ $5 85; round-hoop extra Ohio, shipping brands, at $5 90 @$6 ℔ bbl.

Superfine State	$5 40 @$5 50
Extra State	5 62½ @ 5 90
Superfine Western	5 40 @ 5 50
Extra Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois	5 60 @ 6 30
Extra Indiana and Michigan	5 65 @ 6 40
Inferior extra Ohio	5 80 @ 5 85
Extra Ohio, round hoop, shipping brands	5 90 @ 6 00
Extra Ohio, trade brands	6 05 @ 6 75
Fancy Genessee	5 90 @ 6 00
Extra Genessee	6 05 @ 7 00
Inferior to Choice Extra Missouri	6 00 @ 7 00

Southern Flour is unchanged; sales 850 bbls., at $5 70@$6 20 for poor to good superfine Baltimore, &c., and $6 25@$7 75 for fancy to very choice extra brands, ℔ bbl. Canadian Flour is in fair request, including superfine at $5 45@$5 55; extra at $5 65@$6 75, ℔ bbl.: sales 1,100 bbls. Rye Flour rules quiet at $3 10@$4 40 for fine and superfine, ℔ bbl. Corn Meal is in good request, at $3@$3 10 for Jersey; $3 25 for New-Haven; $3 25@$3 30 for Brandywine, afloat, ℔ bbl. Sales 450 bbls.

GRAIN—Wheat has been more sought after to-day, and prices of desirable lots have been well supported. The reported sales reach 131,000 bushels, including White Canada, poor to choice, at $1 37@$1 50; Canada Club at $1 31@$1 32; White Western, $1 42@ $1 50; Amber do. at $1 41@$1 43; Red Western, inferior to choice (Winter,) at $1 36@$1 41; Amber Wisconsin and Iowa, $1 31½@$1 32: Milwaukee Club, poor to choice, at $1 27@$1 31; Racine Spring, poor to choice, at $1 27@$1 30; Chicago Spring, unsound to very choice, at $1 23 @$1 28; Red State at $1 24@$1 33 ℔ bushel. Corn is improving. Sales, 94,000 bushels at 66c. @ 67½c., for unsound to strictly Prime Mixed Western, closing at 67c. @ 67½c. for sound, 68c. @ 68½c. for do., in store; 69c. for Western Yellow, ℔ bushel. Oats are in fair request, including Canadian, at 44c. @ 45c. Western at 44c. @ 45c., and State at 44¾c. @ 46c. afloat, ℔ bushel. Rye continues in demand at 82½c. @ 85c. ℔ bushel; sales 4,250 bushels. Barley is unchanged; sales 9,100 bushels, including Canada, at 71c. @ 78c., and State at 72½c. @ 80c. ℔ bushel.

The following table shows the shipments of Flour and Grain from Buffalo, by canal, during the present season:

Flour, bbls.....	322,753	Oats, bushels.....	1,633,228
Wheat, bushels	23,214,413	Barley, bushels...	161,459
Corn, bushels...	19,229,497	Rye, bushels.....	263,432

HAY—North River bale is active and firm, to-day, at 70c. @ 85c. ℔ 100 lbs. Supply, moderate.

HOPS—Continue in fair request, at full prices, including new, at 15c. @ 23c., for poor to choice ℔ lb.

HIDES—Receipts have been in excess of the sales, and prices have favored buyers. Week's receipts, 38,908 hides; sales 22,435 hides, including, according to Messrs. WEIZEL & WEIDEMEYER, 3,200 Buenos Ayres, 22 @ 24 lbs., on private terms; 3,000 Buenos Ayres, 20 lbs., 22c., 6 months, usual selection; 1,272 Porto Cabello, 22 lbs., 17c., 6 months, as they run; 2,824 Matamoras, 23 lbs., 19c., 6 months, rejecting bad and bulls; 1,003 Tampico, 21 lbs., 18c., 6 months, rejecting bad and bulls; 1,100 Chili, hung dried, 28 lbs., 18c., 6 months, rejecting bad hides; 700 West Indies, 17 @ 24 lbs., on private terms; 1,086 South Western, 20 lbs., on private terms; 450 Western Slaughter, 60 lbs., 7c., cash, rejecting bad hides; 500 Washington Slaughter, 80 lbs., 7½c., cash, rejecting bad hides; 2,500 Country Slaughter, 60@70 lbs., 7c., cash, rejecting bad hides: 4,800 City Slaughter, 60@70 lbs., 6½c. @ 6¾c., cash, rejecting bad hides. Stock in importers' and speculators' hands: 282,000 dry Hides, 27,200 wet salted Hides, 1,800 horse Hides, and 1,250 bales East India Hides.

IRON—Has been quiet here to-day. Sales in Philadelphia, during the week, 2,000 tons Anthracite Pig, at $19, cash, for No. 1, and $18 for No. 2, and $19@$20, 6 months. An invoice of Scotch Pig was disposed of at $21, 6 months.

LEATHER—The business of the week Messrs. WEIZEL & WEIDEMEYER notice thus: "Hemlock Sole—The look of our Leather market has undergone little variation since the date of our last circular. Prices are sustained by moderate sales. Light and inferior stock is somewhat neglected, whilst for prime, heavy Leather, rates may be quoted firm. Oak Sole—Both in Tar or Crude Turpentine. The auction sale of Spirits Turpentine, early in the day, at the Atlantic Docks, Brooklyn, resulted very satisfactorily; 1,508 bbls. (parts of the cargoes of prize vessels) having been disposed of, at $1 31@$1 37½, including 200 bbls., at $1 32; 290, at $1 34; 350, at $1 31; 250, at $1 35½; 250, at $1 36½, and 168, at $1 37½ ℔ gallon. One buyer bought the whole amount. The barrels were poor, and leaking badly. Subsequent to the sale, a good demand prevailed, and prices advanced to $1 40@$1 45 ℔ gallon, with sales of 300 bbls., in lots.

PROVISIONS—Pork is plenty and heavy, at $12 25@$12 87½ for Mess, and $8 50@$9 for Prime, ℔ bbl. Sales, 2,600 bbls., mostly for future delivery. Dressed Hogs, 4¾c. @ 4¾c. ℔ lb. Cut Meats are selling in lots at 4½c. @ 6¾c. for Hams, 3¾c. @ 4¾c. for Shoulders, ℔ lb. Bacon is unchanged; sales 700 bxs., at 6¾c. @ 8c. ℔ lb. Lard is declining; sales 1,450, tcs. and bbls.; ℔poor to choice, at 8¼c. @ 9¼c. ℔ lb. Beef is in demand, at full prices; sales, since our last, 450 bbls., at $13 50@$14 for extra Mess, and $11 50@ $12 for new repacked Mess ℔ bbl.; Prime Mess, $19 @$20; India Mess, $22@$23 ℔ tierce. Beef Hams, $15@$15 50 ℔ bbl. Butter is salable and firm, at 11c. @ 15c. for Western, and 16c. @ 22c. for State, ℔ lb. Cheese is in demand, at 5½c. @ 8¾c. ℔ lb.

RICE—Continues inactive at previous quotations. 200 bags East India were sold at $5 37½ ℔ 100 lbs.

SPICES—Sales, 10,000 lbs. No. 1 Nutmegs, on private terms, and 150 bags Pepper, at 13c. ℔ lb.

SUGARS—Sales to-day, 1,110 hhds., including Cuba, at 7½c. @ 8¾c.; English Island, at 7½c. @ 8c., with 607 boxes Havana and 51 hhds. Melado, on private terms, ℔ lb.

TALLOW—Sales 65,000 lbs., at 9¼c. @ 9½c. ℔ lb.

WHISKY—Sales 1,500 bbls., in lots, at 20½c. @ 21c. ℔ gallon.

FREIGHTS—The engagements to-day were moderate, and rates unaltered. For Liverpool—Flour 1s. 9d. @ 2s., ℔ bbl.; Wheat, in bulk and bags, 7½d. @ 8d.; Corn, 7d. @ 7½d.; Peas, 7½d. ℔ bushel; Beef, 5s. 6d. @ 6s. ℔ tc.; Bacon and Lard, 25s. @ 32s, 6d.; Butter and Cheese, 30s. @ 35s.; Tallow, 25s. ℔ ton. For Glasgow—Flour, 2s. 3d. @ 2s 6d. ℔ bbl.; Grain, 8d. @ 9d. ℔ bushel; Lard, 27s. 6d.; Tallow, 25s. ℔ ton. For London—Flour, 2s. 6d. @ 3s., ℔ bbl.; Grain, 8d. @ 9d. ℔ bush.; Resin, 3s.; Beef, 7s. ℔ tc.; Hops, ¾d. ℔ lb.; Cheese, 35s.; Bacon and Lard, 30s.; Tallow, 25s.; Oil Cake, 30s. ℔ ton. Havre—Flour, 70c. ℔ bbl., and Wheat, 18c. ℔ bushel. The latest charters, according to the *Shipping List*, have been: A brig, 375 tons, to Leghorn, 2,000 bbls. Rum and Alcohol, $3,500, about 3½c. ℔ gallon; a British brig, 94 tons, to Spanish Main and back, $1,100; a British schooner, 95 tons, to St. Domingo and back, $1,500; a British bark, 238 tons, to Nuevitas and back, Sugar 40c., Melado 38c., and Molasses $3 50 under, and $3 on deck; a British brig, 154 tons, to Matanzas and back, Sugar, 39c.; a barque, 340 tons, three voyages to North side Cuba and back, $2,400 each; a British brig, 168 tons, from South side Cuba to New-York, Sugar 40c. and Molasses $2 50 on deck; a brig 177 tons, from Zaza to New-York, Sugar 38c., Melado 36c., and Molasses $3 50 under deck; a British brig, 160 tons to North side Cuba and back, Sugar, 39c., and Molasses $3 on deck; a brig, 248 tons, same voyage, 33c., 36c. and $3 50 under; a Br. brig, 200 tons, same, 40c., 37c. and $3 50 under, and $3 on deck; a schooner, 158 tons, same voyage, $1,300; one, 1,400 bbls., to the Windward, 75c.; a Br. ship, 623 tons, to Glasgow, a schooner, 151 tons, to Gibraltar, a Br. schooner, 107 tons, to Turks Islands and back, a brig, 172 tons to Porto Rico and back, a Br. bark to St. Domingo and back, and a brig, 250 tons, to the Windward, on private terms.

AGRICULTURAL AND DOMESTIC.

MAKING CHEESE.—The process of making cheese in Hermiker County, New-York, is admirable for its simplicity and dispatch, as compared with that practiced in Cheshire and other districts in England. The night's milk is placed in the cheese-vat, and kept as cool as possible. After the morning's milk is added, the whole is raised to the proper temperature—either by heating a portion of the morning's milk, or, what is better, by applying steam to the bottom of the tin milk-vat. Sufficient rennet is then added to set the cheese in about forty minutes. When the cheese is set, the coagulated curd is cut into small pieces with a long four-bladed steel knife, which crushes the curd much less than the old-fashioned breakers, and is thus not so liable to press out the butter. The curd is then "scalded." This is done either by beating a portion of the whey, (which should not be heated to the boiling point,) and pouring it into the vat till the whole is raised to the desired temperature; or, when steam can be applied to the vat, it is heated in this way. The temperature varies somewhat in different dairies, from 102 to 108 degrees. After the scalding, the curd is allowed to stand in the heated whey about forty minutes, and the whey and curd is then poured on to a cloth placed on a shallow wooden vessel, with a hole in the bottom, which allows the strained whey to run off. The curd is then broken up fine and salted to suit the taste—say a teacupful to each ten or twelve cows. The curd is then placed in the vat and put under the press, where it remains till the next morning. Those acquainted with the English method of making cheese will see in what respect the two processes differ. The method so imperfectly and inadequately described above, is not half as much labor as the Cheshire or Gloucestershire process. The method of heating the milk by the application of steam to the cheese-vat is a great improvement. Then the method of separating the curd from the whey by straining it through a cloth is much more expeditious. In Cheshire the whey is removed by pressing down a flat-bottomed pan gently on the curd in the cheese-tub, and allowing it to fill. When the curd is thus partially freed from the whey, the curd is again gently broken and allowed to settle and separate, and the whey is baled out slowly, the curd being placed on one side of the tub, which is slightly raised, and a board is placed on the curd, with heavy weights on top to press out the whey. The curd is then cu, into pieces six or eight inches square, and again pressed with heavier weights.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PICTURE OF A CORN BARN.—The Editor of *The New-England Farmer* has been looking into somebody's corn barn, and has made a picture of it, which we transfer for the benefit of somebody who, perchance, may see his own face in the mirror we hold up before him. Here it is: "We have visited many corn barns, but have not found a dozen in any such condition as we thought properly protected the farmer's property and reflected credit upon him as a successful economist. If they were not Pandora's boxes, from whence flowed every evil, they certainly readily suggested that myth. Let us walk into one of them and see. At the right is a narrow bin for the corn. On the further end is an old pair of broken sleigh runners, and the remnants of an ancient cheese press, not over-nicely cleansed when its further service was dispensed with. Hard by these hangs the battered body of an old "tin-kitchen," reminding one of the days of large fireplaces, roasted sirloins, turkeys and saddles of mutton. Three casks stand in a corner, the aggregate amount of hoops on which would not equal those of a miss of sixteen of to-day. In one of them is a peck of two-year old beans, the second is filled with cobs, while the third has a miscellaneous collection of old hoes, horse-shoes, broken whiffletrees, the greasy "spit" that belonged to the aforesaid "tin-kitchen," the "head and distaff" of a linen wheel, and various other things that had seen ther day and generation. Two broken, rusty plows, are perched on the end of the beam in another corner—while between is a bundle of catnip, another of mullein and a handful of dock roots, hung there for the pious purpose of assuaging fevers, agues and cramps, when—well, when the proprietor can' work any longer. On a little shelf between the studding is the remnant of an old grease-pot which, whilom, produced a supply of lubricating matter for the ox cart or old chaise wheels—but its day has long since departed, and it should have slept quietly with its mother earth many years ago. Intermingled with these interesting relics of husbandry are bits of old harness, as dry and hard as the heart that never softens at the sufferings of others or at children's sweet words; here a broken hame, and there a ruptured collar with the rye straw protruding, showing that 'all is not gold that glitters.'"

TOP-DRESSING GRASS LANDS IN AUTUMN.—Our attention was recently called to a piece of grass land, upon which some interesting experiments had been made in top-dressing. The piece consisted of two or three acres, and had been underdrained, plowed, seeded to grass, and the whole of it, in every respect, treated alike, with the exception *of the time* of top-dressing it. The same quantity and quality of manure was applied to one part as well as another, and yet the difference in the time of applying the manure made a difference of a hundred per cent. in the crop! On one portion of the field the dressing was applied last Fall—but we did not learn whether it was before the ground was frozen or not. The manure was made very fine by frequent overhauling, and spread directly from the cart—not deposited in heaps. On the remaining portion, the dressing was applied in the Spring, as early as it was safe for the team to pass over the sward without cutting it up much, and where the dressing was applied in the Fall there was *double the amount of grass that there was on the Spring-dressed portion.* We hope many careful experiments of this kind will be made this Fall.—*New-England Farmer.*

TREATING SUGAR-CANE AND BEET-ROOT JUICE.—The French papers describe, in glowing terms, a discovery in sugar-making lately brought before the Parisians by M. Rosseau. The saccharine juice, when first extracted from plants, is colorless, but it has such an affinity for oxygen after leaving the cells of the plant that it very soon becomes dark in color and changed in character by exposure to the atmosphere. To prevent this chemical action—principally due to the albumine of the juice—the sulphate of lime, sulphur and various substances have been used. Rosseau's process consists in removing the albumine in the juice by mixing a very small quantity of sulphate of lime with the juice immediately when extracted, heating it up to 212° in a boiler, when the albumine rises to the surface, and is skimmed off. About eight per cent. of hydrated protoxyde of iron is now stirred in, and this, it is said, neutralizes all the changeable part of the juice, and leaves it colorless. The juice is now simply evaporated to obtain beautiful crystals, without the usual tedious and expensive operation of filtration through animal charcoal, &c.

A NEW VEGETABLE.—There has lately been exhibited, at several meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society, a new vegetable, which promises to become a permanent institution among kitchen garden crops. It is a cabbage in the form of Brussels sprouts. The stem is about a foot high, bearing on its summit a good-size hearted cabbage, of the ordinary character; but the stem is covered with small cabbages about the size of a small dessert apple, and these, when cooked, form an excellent dish, partaking of the flavor of a nice Summer cabbage, and without the strong Savoy flavor which distinguishes the Brussels sprouts.

Temporary deafness, arising from cold, sitting in a draught, and other causes, may be relieved and cured by letting fall into the ear ten drops of a mixture of sweet oil and one of glycerine every night until the duct which leads from the ear to the nose is cleared; this will be known by the sensation of the fluid passing at once from the ear into the nostril. If, from inattention, the wax becomes hardened, and thus also induce temporary deafness, then the above mixture is to be applied for two or three days, and followed by thoroughly washing the ear with soap and warm water. No hard probe or pick is to be put into the ear on any account, as it is very liable to injure the membrane.—*Septimus Piesse.*

Movements of European Steamers.

FROM EUROPE.

Kangaroo	Liverpool	New-York	Nov. 27
Anglo-Saxon	Liverpool	Portland	Nov. 28
Europa	Liverpool	Boston	Nov. 30
City of New-York	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 4
Teutonia	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 4
Bohemian	Liverpool	Portland	Dec. 5
Australasian	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 7
St. Andrew	Glasgow	New-York	Dec. 7
Arago	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 11
Nova Scotian	Liverpool	Portland	Dec. 12
Niagara	Liverpool	Boston	Dec. 14
Hammonia	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 18
John Bell	Glasgow	New-York	Dec. 21
Asia	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 21
Bremen	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 25
Canada	Liverpool	Boston	Dec. 28
Borussia	Southampton	New-York	Jan. 1

FROM AMERICA.

Africa	New-York	Liverpool	Dec. 18
Kangaroo	New-York	Liverpool	Dec. 21
Hansa	New-York	Southampton	Dec. 21
Anglo-Saxon	Portland	Liverpool	Dec. 21
Europa	Boston	Liverpool	Dec. 25
Bohemian	Portland	Liverpool	Dec. 25
City of New-York	New-York	Liverpool	Dec. 28
Australasian	New-York	Liverpool	Jan. 1
Arago	New-York	Southampton	Jan. 4
Nova Scotian	Portland	Liverpool	Jan. 4
St. Andrew	New-York	Glasgow	Jan. 7
Niagara	Boston	Liverpool	Jan. 8
Asia	New-York	Liverpool	Jan. 15
John Bell	New-York	Glasgow	Jan. 21

Mails Close at the Post-office.

North Mails close at.....5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
South Mails close at.....5 A. M. and 4:30 and 10 P. M.
Western Mails (*via* Erie Railroad) 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Eastern Mails close at.....5 A. M., 2 P. M. and 6:30 P. M.

Mails for California, Oregon, Washington and the Sandwich Islands close daily at the New-York Post-office at 5½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.

On Sunday all Mails close at 1:30 P. M.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BOARDING.—SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATIONS for a small family, or single persons, at No. 18 East 28th-st. Prices moderate. Persons of religious or strictly moral habits preferred.

BOARDING.—HANDSOMELY FURNISHED suites of front rooms, on the second or third floor, may be obtained in a private family, by applying at No. 42 West 19th-st., near 5th-av.

BOARDING.—ONE OR TWO GENTLEMEN, OR A gentleman and wife, may obtain a pleasant room, furnished or unfurnished, with board, in a private family. No. 419 West 23d-st., near 9th-av.

BOARD IN BROOKLYN.—A GENTLEMAN and wife, or two single gentlemen, can obtain pleasant furnished rooms and board, with a private family, at No. 115 Congress-st., within five minutes' walk of the South Ferry. Unexceptionable references required.

BOARD IN BROOKLYN.—TWO SINGLE GENTLEMEN, or a family, can find a handsomely furnished front parlor and unfurnished back parlor on second floor, with board, at No. 221 State-st.; pleasant location. Terms moderate.

BOARD IN BROOKLYN WANTED.—A gentleman of quiet habits desires a pleasant room, with partial or full board, in a private family, in the near vicinity of Fulton and Wall-st. Ferries. Address, with name or residence, B. B., Box No. 3,208 New-York Post-office.

BOARD ON BROOKLYN HEIGHTS.—A handsome suite of rooms on second floor—also single rooms suitable for gentlemen, within five minutes' walk of Fulton or Wall-st. Ferries. Apply at No. 11 Monroe-place. References required.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS.—A PRIVATE FAMILY, of pleasant social habits, desire to let, with board, two rooms and bedroom on second floor, furnished or unfurnished, to single gentlemen or a family. Bath on same floor. An agreeable and good home guaranteed. Address "HOME," Box No. 2,495 New-York Post-office. House only three squares from Wall-st. Ferry. Terms moderate.

EIGHTH-STREET—NO. 38 CLINTON-PLACE—A parlor and bedroom to let, for two gentlemen, at $6 per week; also, one parlor and bedroom, at $8 per week, suitable for two or three gentlemen wishing pleasant and comfortable rooms. Call and see the rooms. House first-class.

BROOKLYN.—PLEASANT, SECOND-STORY front rooms, furnished or unfurnished, can be obtained, with board, in a private family, at No. 132 Clinton-st., between Amity and Congress sts. References required.

FRENCH BOARD—IN A SMALL PRIVATE family; house first-class; modern improvements. Price moderate. No. 166 East 33d-st., between 2d and 3d avs.

BOARD WANTED—FOR A GENTLEMAN AND wife; private family preferred. Willing to pay a fair price for good accommodations. Address, with full particulars as to location and terms, H., Box 1,128 Post-office.

NO. 193 FOURTH-STREET.—A PLEASANT bedroom for a young gentleman, to let with full or partial board: location unsurpassed; and terms moderate. Apply at No. 193 4th-st.

A FAMILY WITHOUT CHILDREN, WISH a child from one to three years old, to board. Apply at No. 77 Avenue A, between 5th and 6th sts., third floor, back room.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

HEDDING M. E. CHURCH, EAST 17TH-st., between 1st and 2d avs., north side, Dr. ABEL STEVENS, Pastor. Special Sabbath School services. SUNDAY, Dec. 15. Sermon in the morning on *Sabbath Schools*, by the Pastor. Addresses in the afternoon by C. C. NORTH, W. W. CORNELL, R. L. LOCKWOOD, R. G. PARDEE and G. P. DISSOSWAY, Esqs.; also, the distribution of rewards due at that date. In the evening addresses will be delivered by Rev. J. P. NEWMAN and Rev. Drs. TYNG and STEVENS. Seats free. Time for services, 10½ A. M., 2½ P. M., 7 P. M.

MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY IN THE GREENE-ST. M. E. CHURCH.—The Rev. J. P. DURBIN, D. D., will preach in the morning, at 10½ o'clock. Interesting Sabbath School exercises at 2½ o'clock P. M. Addresses will be delivered by the Rev. M. D. C. CRAWFORD and the Rev. Mr. BALDWIN, late Missionary to China. Evening Services to commence at 7½ o'clock: Addresses will be made by the Rev. Mr. BALDWIN, Rev. T. CARLTON, D. D., G. P. DISOSWAY, Esq., W. W. CORNELL, Esq., and the Rev. CHAS. E. HARRIS, Pastor.

A PUBLIC UNION MEETING WILL BE held by the American Tract Society in the 4th-st. Reformed Dutch Church, (Rev. Dr. Porter's,) Williamsburgh, on SABBATH EVENING, Dec. 15, with special reference to the supplying the Army and Navy with religious reading.

A statement will be made by one of the Secretaries, and addresses may be expected from several pastors, and from Col. T. V. VAN BUREN, Paymas ter-General of New-York. A collection will be taken.

FORSYTH-ST. M. E. CHURCH.—FORMER pastors and members of this church are affectionately invited to its reunion services, appointed for Dec. 22, 1861. At 10½ o'clock A. M., sermon by Rev. J. B. WAKELEY; at 2½ P. M., a reunion love-feast; and at 7½ o'clock in the evening, sermon by Rev. R. S. FOSTER, D. D.

PHILO SCOFIELD,
JOSEPH B. CRAWFORD,
JOHN MILEY,
} Committee.

SABBATH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—The forty-seventh anniversary of the Sabbath School connected with the Reformed Dutch Church at Greenwich, will be held in the Church corner of Bleecker and West 10th sts., on SABBATH EVENING, 15th inst. Services to commence at 7 o'clock. The Missionary offerings of the children, designed for the mission boat at Amoy, China, will be presented on that evening.

FREE CHURCH OF THE REDEMPTION (Protestant Episcopal) in East 14th-st., between 3d-av. and Irving-place. Rev. ROBERT G. DICKSON, Pastor. Divine service at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. Fourteen hundred free seats in this comfortable, well-arranged and easily accessible Church. A cordial welcome for all—"Rich and poor meet together—the Lord is the maker of them all."

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE FOURTEENTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—The first of the series of sermons before the Association will be delivered in the Church corner 14th-st. and 2d-av., by Rev. Dr. ASA D. SMITH, on SABBATH EVENING NEXT, Dec. 15, at 7½ o'clock. Subject—*The early battle of life.*

HOW LONG HALT YE?—BEHOLD, I WILL send you Elijah the Prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord." That messenger will preach on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock, in Union Buildings, No. 163 Bowery. Subject—*The Mission of Elias.*

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE.—REV. E. G. BROOKS will preach on this subject at the 20th-st. Universalist Church, between 6th and 7th avs., on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock. Sermon in the Morning on *The Christian Sufferer*, suggested by the long and painful sickness of the late Minard S. Thresher.

FIVE POINTS HOUSE OF INDUSTRY—No. 155 Worth-st.—The regular Children's service is held EVERY SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock. To those who wish to see the children of the Five Points, this is a most convenient opportunity. "The sight is a good sermon." Strangers and friends are cordially invited.

A COURSE OF SABBATH EVENING DISCOURSES upon *Sceptical Objections to Religion* has been announced by Rev. Dr. NEWELL, to commence in his Church, corner of Grand and Allen sts., on SUNDAY EVENING. First Subject—*No matter what a man believes, if he is sincere.*

PARK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BROOKLYN.—Rev. HENRY D. NORTHROP will preach in the Park Tabernacle, on Cumberland-st., between Myrtle and Park avs., on SUNDAY, Dec. 15, at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. Sunday School at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M.

REV. S. REMINGTON WILL PREACH IN the Mount Olivet Baptist Church, corner Broadway and 47th-st., on SUNDAY MORNING, at 10½ o'clock, on *The Superlative Excellence of Christian Charity*, and in the EVENING at 7½ o'clock on *The Vision of the Holy Waters.* Seats free.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH—REV. THOMAS GALLAUDET, Rector. Services on SUNDAY, as usual, with the voice at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M., and in the sign language at 3 P. M. Rev. EASTBURN BENJAMIN, recently ordained in this church, will preach in the morning, and Rev. F. C. EWER in

FINANCIAL.

HEMINWAY, NORWOOD & CO.,
STOCK AND BOND BROKERS,
No. 53 Exchange-place,
Buy and sell for Cash, or on Time, Stocks, Bonds and Government Securities, at the Board of Brokers, on commission exclusively.

CONTRACTORS' BILLS
For Army and Navy supplies collected cheaply and expeditiously, or purchased on favorable terms, by
LIVERMORE, CLEWS & MASON,
Nos. 41 and 43 Wall-st., New-York

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

PROPOSALS FOR $250,000 OF THE CROTON WATER STOCK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.—Sealed proposals will be received at the Comptroller's Office until FRIDAY, Dec. 20, 1861, at 2 o'clock P. M., when the same will be publicly opened, for the whole or any part of the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($250,000) of the Croton Water Stock of the City of New-York, authorized by chapter 372 of the laws of 1860, and as amended by chapter 181 of the laws of 1861, and by an ordinance of the Common Council, approved by the Mayor, Oct. 4, 1861, for increasing the supply of Croton Water, &c.

The said stock will bear interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable quarter-yearly, and the principal will be redeemable on the first day of November, 1883.

The proposals will state the amount of stock desired, and the price per one hundred dollars thereof; and the persons whose proposals are accepted will be required to deposit with the Chamberlain of the City, within six days after the opening of the bids, the sum awarded to them respectively. On presenting to the Comptroller the receipts of the Chamberlain for such deposits, the parties will be entitled to receive certificates for equal amounts of the par value of the stock, bearing interest from the date of payments.

Each proposition should be sealed and indorsed "Proposals for Croton Water Stock of the City of New-York," and the same inclosed in a second envelope addressed to the Comptroller.

The right is reserved to reject any or all of the bids, if considered necessary to protect or promote the interests of the City.

ROBERT T. HAWS, Comptroller.

City of New-York, Department of Finance, Comptroller's Office, Nov. 19, 1861.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, TREASURY OFFICE, } HARTFORD, Nov. 20, 1861.

SALE OF STATE STOCKS.—SEALED PROposals for the purchase of $1,200,000 of the Bonds of the State of Connecticut, will be received at the Office of the Treasurer in Hartford, until the 20th day of December, at noon, when said proposals will be opened in the presence of such bidders as may choose to attend, and the bonds awarded to the highest bidders.

The proposals must be accompanied with certificates of deposit or certified checks on solvent Banks in the States of Connecticut or Massachusetts or the City of New-York of 5 per cent. of the amount subscribed to be held as security for the faithful fulfillment of the bid, and returned to the owners on their order.

It is provided that no bid shall be accepted at less than the par value of the bonds, and full payment, in funds current in New-York and Boston, will be required within 20 days after notice of acceptance.

The bonds are in denominations of $100, $500 and $1,000, are dated July 1, 1861, and payable at the Treasurer's Office, in twenty years from date, or at any time after the expiration of 10 years, at the pleasure of the General Assembly, with 6 per cent. coupons attached, payable at the same place in January and July of each year.

This issue completes the $2,000,000 authorized by Act of the General Assembly, at their May Session, and as the State has no public debt, would be met in full by a tax of less than one per cent. on the Grand List of the State.

EZRA DEAN, State Treasurer.

HARTFORD, Nov. 21, 1861.

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY—NEW-YORK, Dec. 5, 1861.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY, held at their Office in New-York this day, it was

Resolved, That an assessment of FIVE DOLLARS per share upon the Scrip Shares of the Capital Stock of the Company, be and the same is hereby called payable on the twentieth day of January, 1862; and that the same be payable on the Stock registered in the City of New-York at the Office of the Company in that City; and on the Stock registered in London, at the Office of Messrs. ROBERT BERNON & Co., London; and that parties desiring to pay their assessment in London, may pay the same at a rate of exchange sufficient to produce five dollars per share to the Company in the City of New-York.

Resolved, That the transfer books be closed on the afternoon of the 15th January next, and reopened on the 20th day of the same month; and that no transfer be permitted on or after that day of shares upon which the foregoing assessment shall not have been paid.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

The eighty-dollar certificates to be returned on payment of the above.

NEW-YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD
FOURTH MORTGAGE.—Holders of Trustees Certificates for Fourth Mortgage Coupons in arrear are notified that on and after the 16th inst., payment will be made at the office of the Receiver, at the foot of Duane-st., of the Coupons of April and October, 1858, for which certificates have been issued (with interest from May 1, 1861, to Dec. 15, 1861,) out of the balance in the Trustees' hands from assessments, and out of the net earnings of the road applicable to that purpose, under the order of the Supreme Court—Dec. 13, 1861.

DUDLEY S. GREGORY, } Trustees.
J. C. BANCROFT DAVIS, }

NOTICE.—THE BANK OF MONTREAL HAVING established an agency at Chicago, is prepared to do a general Banking business, and, in connection therewith, will attend to the collection of commercial paper in all accessible points throughout the West. Collections in interior points will be at the risk of owners, care being used in selecting the most reliable medium.

CHICAGO, Oct. 10, 1861. E. W. WILLARD, Agent.

Referring to the above, we are prepared to draw, purchase and collect upon Chicago on favorable terms.

We also purchase and collect upon the Canadas, and issue drafts and credits upon the various branches of the Bank of Montreal and the Union Bank of London.

RICHARD BELL and A. OGILVIE,
No. 32 Pine-st.,
Agents for the Bank of Montreal, New-York.

OFFICE OF TRUSTEES OF THE ASSENTING CREDITORS OF THE LA CROSSE AND MILWAUKEE } R. R. Co., No. 29 William-st.

HOLDERS OF LAND GRANT, AND OF 2d Mortgage Eastern Division, Bonds, not deposited with the Trustees, under the agreement of Oct. 3, 1861, before the 21st of December, 1861, are hereby notified that they will be required to pay in cash an assessment on all bonds presented to us, for the benefit of that agreement, after that date, for the purpose of paying expenses incurred by delay and litigation. By order of the Trustees.

Dec. 9, 1861. N. A. COWDREY, Sec.

FIFTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND—BROOKLYN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held at their office, No. 16 Merchants' Exchange, New-York, on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861, it was—

Resolved, That the usual Dividend of Ten (10) per cent. be paid upon the capital stock of the Company, on and after the 2d day of January next, out of the profits for the last six months, leaving a balance of said earnings of 3¾ per cent., which is added to the surplus fund.

By order,
WM. F. LEGGETT, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD Co., } NEW-YORK, Oct. 29, 1861.

HOLDERS OF THE STOCK OF THIS company, as registered upon the books of the company at the close of business on the 15th day of January, 1862, will be entitled to Cancelled Bonds Scrip for five dollars upon each share of stock held by them deliverable on or after the 1st day of February next; and parties holding certificates are hereby notified to have the same registered in their own names on or before the said 15th day of January.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY.—Tenders for the sale of $33,000 Second Mortgage Sinking Fund Bonds of this Company will be received up to the 16th of December inst. by the undersigned Commissioners of the Sinking Fund for the extinguishment of the Second Mortgage Bonds of this Company. Tenders may be made for the whole or any portion of this sum.

SAMUEL SLOAN,
EDWARD JONES,
J. B. JOHNSTON.

OFFICE OF CHICAGO AND ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD Co., } NEW-YORK, Dec. 5, 1861.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE Chicago and Rock Island Railroad Company have this day declared a Dividend of Three (3) Per Cent. on the Capital Stock of the Company, payable at their office, on the 20th day of December, instant.

The Transfer Books will be closed on the afternoon of the 11th inst., and reopened on the morning of Saturday, the 21st inst. FRANCIS H. TOWS, Secretary.

DIVIDEND.—THE KNICKERBOCKER ICE COMPANY have declared a Dividend of Four (4) per Cent., payable on and after the 20th of December. The transfer books will be closed from the 10th to the 20th inst., inclusive. R. T. COMPTON, President.

THEO. BROWNING, Secretary.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1861.

OFFICE OF THE HOWARD INSURANCE COMPANY, } NEW-YORK, Nov. 27, 1861.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of ten (10) per cent. upon the Capital Stock of the Company, payable at the office, No. 66 Wall-st., on and after MONDAY, Dec. 2, 1861. HENRY A. OAKLEY, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 6 WALL-ST., } NEW-YORK, Dec. 3, 1861.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared an interest dividend of (4) four per cent., payable on demand. R. W. BLEECKER, Secretary.

TO TRUSTEES AND GUARDIANS.—$6,000 wanted on bond and mortgage on good productive property in Brooklyn. Interest payable quarterly and in advance. Apply to JOHN B. GARDINER, No. 141 Joralemon-st., corner of Court, or address Box No 94 Post-office.

NOTICE.—HOLDERS OF MILWAUKEE CITY Bonds, issued to the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad Company, may exchange the same for Second Preferred Stock of the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railway Company, by applying to W. SCHALL & CO., Nos. 58 and 60 Exchange-place.

COLLECTIONS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.—Claims on any of the Departments, Quartermasters' accounts, and Notes payable in Washington, D. C., collected with promptness and on reasonable terms by RIGGS & CO., No. 56 Wall-st.

APPROVED BILLS FOR SUPPLIES FURNished the War and Navy Departments cashed by JOHN B. MURRAY,
No. 39 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.

INCOME BONDS BUFFALO STATE LINE RAILROAD COMPANY cashed by H. T. MORGAN & CO., William-st., at 98 cents.

MATRIMONIAL.

A GENTLEMAN OF UNDOUBTED REspectability, wishing to marry, seeks an introduction to a lady, possessing wealth, social position and loveable qualities. Parents or friends are invited to correspond with RASSELAS, Station A, Post-office.

MEDICAL.

AFFLICTED RESTORED! IGNORANCE EXPOSED! FALLACIES UNMASKED!
HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO BOTH SEXES, married or single, in health or disease. DR. LARMONT'S Paris, London and New-York Medical Adviser and Marriage Guide. (50th edition, 400 pages, 100 Anatomical Illustrations,) upon Mental and Nervous Debility, Loss of Memory, Incapacity, Urinary Deposits, Involuntary Loss of Semen, Rights, with the urine, or at stool; Impotency, Affections of the Bladder and Kidneys, Strictures, Gleet, Gonorrhœa, Syphilis, primary and constitutional, &c.

Among its contents is the anatomy of the sexual organs of the male and female—all their diseases and weaknesses; latest discoveries in reproduction; European hospital practice; quacks, advertisers, their recipes and specifics; the author's unequaled Paris and London treatment, &c.

All who would avoid unsuccessful and barbarous treatment with Mercury, Copaiba, Injections, Cauterizations, Quack Specifics, Antidotes, Instruments, &c., should purchase this valuable work, for $1, of RICHARDSON, No. 1 Vesey-st.; ROSS & TOUSEY, No. 121 Nassau-st.; H. DEXTER & CO., No. 113 Nassau-st., New-York; and DE WITT, No. 13 Frankfort-st.; or consult the Doctor, at No. 647 Broadway, (up stairs,) New-York, from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M.

"We concur with other papers in recommending Dr. LARMONT and his work."—*Courier des Etat Unis, German Die Reform, Dispatch, Staats Zeitung, National Democrat, Atlas, Medical Review, &c.*

NERVOUS AND SPECIAL DISEASES, MARRIAGE, &c.
By C. D. HAMMOND, M. D., Ex-Professor of Special Pathology in the Syracuse Medical College, New-York. Price $1. GODFREY, Bookseller, No. 831 Broadway, or of the author, at No. 658 Broadway.

TRIESEMAR.—PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETters patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. TRIESEMAR No. 1 is the effectual remedy for RELAXATION, SPERMATORRHŒA and EXHAUSTION OF THE SYSTEM. TRIESMAR No. 2 completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders for which Copaiva and Cubebs have generally been thought an antidote, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. TRIESEMAR No. 3 is the great and sure remedy of the civilized world for all impurities of the system, as well as secondary symptoms; obviating the destructive use of Mercury, as well as other deleterious ingredients, and which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. They are in the form of a lozenge, and may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected. Sold in tin cases at $3 each, or four $3 cases in one for $9, and in $27 cases, thus saving $9, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c., &c. Wholesale and retail by Dr. H. A. BARROW, No. 194 Bleecker-st., (four doors from Macdougal-st.,) New-York. Immediately on receipt of remittance, forwarded to any part of the world. Attendance and consultation from 1 to 2, and from 7 till 8 in the evening, and on Sunday till 11. Triesmar can also be obtained, by authority of Dr. Barrow, from

WELLS & CO.,
No. 115 Franklin-st., New-York,
And J. WORTHINGTON,
No. 206 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

PRIVATE CONSULTATION.—DR. HUNTER has, for thirty years, confined his attention to diseases of a certain class, in which he has treated no less than fifty thousand cases, without an instance of failure. His great remedy, HUNTER'S RED DROP, cures certain diseases when regular treatment and all other remedies fail; cures without dieting or restriction in the habits of the patient; cures without the disgusting and sickening effects of all other remedies; cures in new cases in less than six hours; cures without the dreadful consequent effects of mercury, but possesses the peculiarly valuable property of annihilating the rank and poisonous taint that the blood is sure to absorb, unless his remedy is used. This is what he claims for it, and what no other will accomplish. Its value in this respect has become so well known, that scientific men in every department of medical knowledge begin to appreciate it, for hardly a week passes that he is not consulted by druggists, chemists and physicians, in regard to some pitiful patient, who has exhausted the whole field of the faculty, and still the disease will appear. Its popularity is so great, that there is not a quack doctor in the City that has not attacked it; and when they find their lies are not so easily swallowed, they then pretend that they can make it. It is $1 a vial, and cannot be obtained genuine anywhere but at the old office, No. 3 Division-st. Book No. 15 three cent stamps, 300 pages, 100 colored illustrations. The best work out.

"NEW MEDICAL BOOK."—DR. BOSTWICK'S Work on Seminal Diseases, Hints Before and After Marriage, Nervous Debility, Impotency and Kindred Affections, &c., &c., is before us, and we do not hesitate to say it is without exception the most truthful and useful work of the kind ever published, and it will be hailed by the profession as well as the public as a great benefactor to mankind. Quackery is here exposed and the truth told. It should be in every family, and in the hands of every young man and woman in the land."—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

Mailed by Richardson, No. 1 Vesey-st.; Godfrey's, No. 831 Broadway; and by Dr. B. at his office, No. 35 East 12th-st., six doors west of Broadway, where Dr. B. will continue the practice of medicine and surgery. Price $1. All interviews and communications strictly confidential.

SURE CURE.—DR. POWERS, SUCCESSFULLY consulted with Dr. WARD, No. 12 Laight-st. He gives advice free and guarantees an immediate cure or no pay. Glorious triumph of medicine. Dr. POWERS' sure specific remedies for syphilitic, mercurial and all other delicate diseases; for certainty unapproached, and for the entire eradication of disease nothing besides can positively be relied upon; try them and be convinced. Dr. POWERS' Essence of Life restores the vigor of youth in four weeks. This marvelous agent restores manhood to the most shattered constitutions. Office No. 12 Laight-st. Dr. POWERS' French Preventive, the greatest invention of the age. Those who have used them are never without them. Price, $3 per dozen; mailed free on receipt of the price. Address Dr. POWERS, No. 12 Laight-st.

DR. COBBETT, MEMBER OF THE N. Y. University, (Medical College,) and Royal College of Surgeons, London, has removed from No. 19 Duane-st., to his present very convenient suite of offices in No. 20 Centre-st., between Chambers and Reade sts., with a private entrance at No. 6 City Hall-place, where he can be consulted with the most honorable confidence on all diseases affecting the urinary organs; thirty years in his present special, (three of which have been at the Hospitals of this City,) enable him to guarantee a cure in every case undertaken, or make no charge. Strictures of the urethra, impotency, seminal weaknesses, &c., treated on the most scientific principles. N. B.—As a proof of Dr. C.'s qualifications, he would call special attention to his Diplomas, which can be seen in his office.

DR. COOPER, NO. 14 DUANE-ST., MAY BE confidently consulted on all diseases of a private nature. A practice of 30 years, devoted to the treatment and cure of Syphilitic, Mercurial, and diseases of a delicate nature, enables Dr. C. to make speedy and permanent cures, no matter of how long standing the case may be. Strictures of the urethra and seminal weakness, brought on by a secret habit, effectually cured. The victims of misplaced confidence, who have been misled by quack advertisements, can call on Dr. C. with the certainty of being radically cured. N. B.—Dr. C. is a qualified physician and surgeon, and a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New-York. Office hours from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M.

IMPORTANT TO THE MARRIED AND THOSE ABOUT TO BE MARRIED.—Dr. A. M. MAURICEAU, Professor of Diseases of Women, has just published the 160th edition of the valuable book, entitled "THE MARRIED WOMAN'S PRIVATE MEDICAL COMPANION," strictly intended for those whose health or circumstances forbid a too rapid increase of family. Price $1. Sold at his office, No. 129 Liberty-st., New-York; or can be sent by mail free of postage, to any part of the United States and Canada, by inclosing $1, and addressing Box No. 1,224 New-York City. For sale by H. RICHARDSON, at No. 1 Vesey-st., (Astor House,) and No. 18 Ann-st.

EDWARD H. DIXON, M. D., EDITOR OF the Scalpel, and Operating and Consulting Surgeon, No. 42 5th-av. Office consultations on the more obscure diseases of the pelvic viscera. Rupture, piles, varicocele, and fistula, radically cured without the knife or ligature. Office hours from 8 to 9, 1 to 3, and 7 to 9 evenings. Consultation fee, $5.

A PERFECT CURE IS GUARANTEED.—A radical cure is always effected by Dr. WARD, who cures, besides, in half the usual time and at half the charge of this office for the protection and effectual treatment of those suffering under certain diseases, is at No. 12 Laight-st., where he continually attends, and will be found a friend and qualified physician to all applying.

DR. VAN HAMBERT'S FEMALE MONTHLY PILLS are a safe remedy for obstruction, &c., from cold or any cause. $1 per box.

Coughs, Colds, &c., cured by Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

Scrofula, Rheumatism, &c., cured by Townsend's Sarsaparilla. Kennedy's Discovery. By GUION, No. 127 Bowery, New-York.

COUGHS! COUGHS! COUGHS!—"OH! dear! How can I cure this dreadful cough?" There is but one certain remedy. Send 25 cents (no stamps) for a box of my VEGETABLE COUGH PILLS. The cure is positive, permanent and effectual; if not, money returned. Address Dr. WHITWELL, New-York City.

HO, YOUNG MAN!—YOU CAN NEVER BE cured by medicine. What you need is information. Knowledge is power. Read a tract I will send you for a dime, (no stamps,) and learn how you may avoid ruin without a doctor. LA ROY SUNDERLAND, Boston, Mass.

SOMETHING FOR EVERY LADY.—DR. WARD'S Great Benefactor. The great periodical remedy, infallible for the immediate removal of monthly obstructions. Office No. 12 Laight-st., near Canal, where Dr. WARD can be consulted confidentially, day or evening.

DR. HUNTER'S RED DROP CURES CERTAIN diseases when regular treatment and all other remedies fail; cures without dieting or restriction in the habits of the patient; cures without the disgusting or sickening effects of all other remedies; cures in new cases in less than six hours. It roots out the poisonous taint the blood is sure to absorb unless this remedy is used. It is $1 a vial, and cannot be obtained genuine anywhere but at the old office, No. 3 Division-st., New-York City. The only place it can be had genuine. $1 per vial, with a book.

INSURANCE.

CONTINENTAL
INSURANCE COMPANY,
CITY OF NEW-YORK.
Office, No. 102 Broadway, between Wall and Pine sts.

Stock Capital, (all paid in,)	$500,000
Assets, Nov. 1, 1861	1,017,436
Liabilities	14,550

Insures Buildings, Merchandise, Household Furniture, Rents, Leases, and other insurable property, at the lowest rates consistent with security and divides

THREE-FOURTHS OF THE NET PROFITS
of the business annually to holders of its policies, in scrip bearing interest.

1st Dividend to customers, July 9, 1857, 33¾ per cent.			
2d	"	"	" 8, '58, 50 "
3d	"	"	" 14, '59, 50 "
4th	"	"	" 12, '60, 45 "
5th	"	"	" 5, '61, 35 "

GEORGE T. HOPE, Pres.
H. H. LAMPORT, Sec.
CYRUS PECK, Assist. Sec.

COUNTRY RESIDENCES.

ORANGE, N. J.—FURNISHED AND UNFURnished houses, beautifully situated, one hour from New-York, to let for the season or year; also, country seats, farms and villa sites to rent and for sale low, by HENRY B. BLACKWELL, No. 59 William-st., New-York, 9 to 11 A. M.; No. 49 Main-st., Orange, 1 to 5 P. M.

PROPOSALS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD, } Dec. 6, 1861.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at this office until 1 o'clock P. M. on MONDAY, the 6th day of January, 1862, for supplying the Light-house Establishment with seventy thousand gallons of the best quality, pure, Winter-strained Sperm Oil, to be divided into three lots, and to be delivered at the times undermentioned, alongside the Government supply-vessels, or at the warehouse or other place of deposit, to be designated by the Inspecting Officer or other authorized agent of the Light-house Board, in strong, tight, well-made casks, suitable for shipping, in good order, of an average capacity, each of from eighty to one hundred gallons.

Either lot or all of them may be delivered at New-York, New-London, Sag Harbor, Boston, New-Bedford, Edgartown, or Nantucket, at the option of the bidders. The place of delivery must be distinctly stated in the bids, and will be embraced in the contracts.

The three lots will die delivered as follows, viz:

Lot No. 1, (25,000) twenty-three thousand gallons on the 1st day of April, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

Lot No. 2, (32,000) thirty-two thousand gallons on the 1st day of June, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

Lot No. 3, (15,000) fifteen thousand gallons on the 1st day of October, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

No part of the oil proposed for and to be embraced in the contracts under this advertisement will be accepted, received, or paid for, until it shall have been proved to the entire satisfaction of the person or persons charged with its examination, test, and inspection, to be the best quality pure Winter-strained or bagged sperm oil, free from mixture with other or inferior oils and adulterations, and that it will remain in a sufficiently fluid state for free burning in lamps at a temperature of 32° or lower of Fahrenheit's standard thermometer.

The usual means for determining the character and quality of the oil will be employed, viz: for specific gravity, by burning to determine the length of time the oil will burn in untrimmed capillary or jacket lamps, the amount of residuum in each lamp after it burns out, and, if necessary, any proper tests to arrive at correct conclusions that may be deemed necessary.

The casks must be gauged, under the direction and personal supervision of the inspecting officer, by a customhouse or other legally authorized and sworn gauger, according to the United States standard, and must be marked and accepted before they are removed from the cellar or warehouse of the contractor.

Proposals will be received and considered for each lot separately, or for all of them, at the option of the bidder; but no bid will be considered for a less quantity than that specified as one lot, to be delivered at one time and place. Each bid must state explicitly the rate per gallon, in writing, the number of lot or lots bid for, and the time and place of delivery, conforming to this advertisement.

Bids submitted by different members of the same firm or copartnership will not be considered.

The Light-house Board, under the authority of the Department, reserves the right to reject any bid, although it may be the lowest, for other considerations than the price.

No bid will be considered for any other kind or description of oil than that specifically called for in this advertisement.

A bond, with security to the satisfaction of the Department, in a penalty equal to one-fifth of the amount of each contract made under these proposals, will be required of each contractor, conditioned for the faithful performance of the contract, to be executed within ten days after the acceptance of the bid.

Every offer must be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, and known to the Department as such, or certified by a United States District Judge, Attorney, Navy Agent, or Collector of the Customs, to the effect that, if the bid or bids be accepted, the bidder or bidders will duly execute a contract in good faith, according to the provisions and terms of this advertisement, within ten days after acceptance; and that in case the said party or parties offering shall fail to enter into the contract as aforesaid, he or they guarantee to make good the difference between the offer of the said party or parties and the next lowest bidder. All bids must be sealed and indorsed "Proposals for oil for light-houses," and then placed in another envelope, and directed, prepaid, to the Secretary of the Light-house Board, Washington City.

All bids will be opened, publicly, at the hour and on the day specified.

Payments will be made for the several lots of oil within thirty days after they shall have been received by the United States.

By order of the Light-house Board.
THORNTON A. JENKINS, Secretary.

FORM OF OFFER.

I, (or we,) ——, of ——, State of ——, hereby offer and agree to furnish and deliver at ——, agreeably to the provisions, and in conformity to the terms, of the advertisement of the ——, from the office of the Lighthouse Board. Should —— offer or bid be accepted, at my request to be informed at ——, and that the contract may be forwarded to ——, for signature and certificate. (Signature.)
(Place.)
(Date.)

FORM OF GUARANTEE.

We, the undersigned, residents of ——, in the State of ——, hereby jointly and severally covenant with the United States, and guaranty that in case the foregoing —— of —— be accepted, ——, will, within ten days after the acceptance of said ——, execute a contract for the same, with good and sufficient sureties, to deliver the —— of oil proposed, in conformity to the terms of the advertisement hereto appended, under which it was made. And in case the said —— shall fail to enter into a contract as aforesaid, we guaranty to make good the difference between the offer of the said —— and the next lowest bidder,

Witness: } Sureties.
(Place.)
(Date.)

I hereby certify, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above named guarantors are good and sufficient. (Signature.)
(Place.)
(Date.)

ARMY CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE OFFICE.—Philadelphia, Dec. 9, 1861.—Proposals are invited at this office, until the 20th instant, for Zouave Leggings of Russet Leather, or other suitable material; and of Linen or Russia Sheeting; to be 11½ inches high. Samples of the Leggings to be sent with the proposals, stating prices.

G. H. CROSMAN,
Deputy Quartermaster-General.

RAILROADS.

NEW-YORK, HARLEM & ALBANY R. R.
FOR ALBANY, TROY, NORTH AND WEST.
Winter Arrangement, commencing Monday, Nov. 4, 1861.
For Albany—10:30 A. M. Express Mail Train, from 26th-st. dépôt.
For all local trains, see time-table.
JOHN BURCHILL, Ass't. Sup't.

NEW-YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD.—Passenger trains from foot of Chambers-st., as follows, viz: 7 A. M., Express, for Buffalo; 8:15 A. M., Mail; 9:15 A. M., Milk, daily; 11 A. M., Accommodation, daily; 3:30 P. M., Way, for Middletown, Newburgh and intermediate stations; 5 P. M., Night Express daily, for Dunkirk, Buffalo, Canandaigua, and principal stations. The train of Saturday runs through to Buffalo, but does not run to Dunkirk. 7 P. M., Accommodation.

CHAS. MINOT, General Superintendent.
NATHANIEL MARSH, Receiver.

RARITAN AND DELAWARE BAY RAILROAD, FOR LONG BRANCH, SHREWSBURY, SQAN, TOMS RIVER, &c.—On and after Monday, Oct. 28, the NAUSHON will leave New-York at 3 P. M., connecting at Port Monmouth with cars for the above places.

Returning, Express train will leave Bergen at 8:50 A. M., and Long Branch at 7:25 A. M. Freight train leaves Bergen at 12½ P. M.

HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.—FOR ALBANY, TROY, THE NORTH AND WEST.

Trains leave:

FROM CHAMBERS-ST.	FROM THIRTIETH-ST.
Express, 7 and 11 A. M., and 3:15 and 5 P. M.	7:25, 11:30 A. M., and 3:40 and 5:30 P. M.
Troy and Albany. (with sleeping car,) 10:15 P. M.	10:40 P. M. Sundays (included.)

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD—CHANGE OF TERMINUS.—Leave James-slip and 34th-st. Ferries, New-York, at 9:30 A. M., for Greenport; 9:30 A. M. and 3:30 P. M. for North Islip, and Saturday to Yaphank; 9:30 A. M. and 3:30 P. M. for Syosset; 9:30 A. M., and 3:30 and 5 P. M. for Hempstead; 9:30 A. M., 3:30, 5 and 6 P. M. for Jamaica. Trains leave Hunter's Point on arrival of boat from James-slip.

NORTHERN RAILROAD OF NEW-JERSEY.—Trains leave Jersey City for Piermont at 9:15 A. M. and 12:05, 4:25 and 6:05 P. M.; for Munsey at 4:25 P. M., and for Sufferns at 9:15 A. M. T. W. DEMAREST, Supt.

STEAMBOATS.

SHREWSBURY—DECEMBER AND JANUARY —HIGHLANDS, PORT WASHINGTON, MOUNT'S AND BROWN'S DOCK, FAIRHAVEN AND RED BANK.—The new and splendid steamer, HIGHLAND LIGHT, Capt. H. B. PARKER, will run as follows, from foot of Robinson-st., North River:

LEAVE NEW-YORK.	LEAVE RED BANK.
Friday, Dec. 13, 2 P. M.	Friday, Dec. 13, 12½ P. M.
Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 P. M.	Monday, Dec. 16, 7½ A. M.
Monday, Dec. 16, 2 P. M.	Tuesday, Dec. 17, 8 A. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2½ P. M.	Wednesday, Dec. 18, 8 A. M.
Thursday, Dec. 19, 9 A. M.	Friday, Dec. 20, 8½ A. M.
Saturday, Dec. 21, 10½ A. M.	Monday, Dec. 23, 8½ A. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 24, 9 A. M.	Tuesday, Dec. 24, 12½ P. M.
Wednesday, Dec. 25, 9 A. M.	Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1½ P. M.
Thursday, Dec. 26, 10 A. M.	Thursday, Dec. 26, 1½ P. M.
Friday, Dec. 27, 10½ A. M.	Friday, Dec. 27, 2 P. M.
Saturday, Dec. 28, 2 P. M.	Monday, Dec. 30, 7½ A. M.
Monday, Dec. 30, 2 P. M.	Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 A. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2:20 P. M.	Thursday, Jan. 2, 8½ A. M.
Friday, Jan. 3, 7 A. M.	Tuesday, Jan. 3, 8½ A. M.
Saturday, Jan. 4, 11 A. M.	Monday, Jan. 6, 8½ A. M.

The LAURA will connect for Ocean House, Pleasure Bay and Long Branch, five minutes before HIGHLAND LIGHT.

Fare to Eatontown and Shrewsbury, by H. Johnson's stages and steamers, 35 cents through. Tickets on the boat.

NIGHT BOAT TO NEW-HAVEN.—THE TRAVELER leaves at 11 P. M., arriving in time for morning trains. CONTINENTAL leaves at 3 P. M. Train for Meriden and Hartford leaves New-Haven at 11 P. M.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

NOTICE.—THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOfore existing under the firm of COX & POWERS is this day dissolved by mutual consent. EDWIN COX will settle all outstanding business and sign the name of the firm in liquidation. EDWIN COX,
BATAVIA, N.Y. Dec. 7, 1861. JAS. E. POWERS.

The business formerly conducted under the firm of COX & POWERS, at 54 Main-st., Batavia, N.Y., will be continued by the undersigned on his own account.
BATAVIA, N. Y., Dec. 7, 1861. EDWIN COX.

ARMY EXPRESS COMPANY,
No. 32 BROADWAY, N. Y.
FORTRESS MONROE, CAMP HAMILTON, NEWPORT'S NEWS, HATTERAS INLET, AND PORT ROYAL.

This Company have extended their lines to the above points, and established Agencies under Official sanction, and are prepared to forward merchandise, parcels and money with unequaled dispatch, and at greatly-reduced rates.
DAVIS, BELDEN & CO., Managers.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS.

PASSPORTS.—All persons leaving the United States will require to have *Passports* from the authorities of their respective countries, countersigned by the Secretary of State at Washington, or by the Passport Agent at port of embarkation.

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$130
Second Cabin Passage	75

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$110
Second Cabin Passage	60

The ships from New-York call at Cork harbor.
The ships from Boston call at Halifax and Cork harbor.

PERSIA, Capt. Judkins. AFRICA, Capt. Shannon.
ARABIA, Capt. J. Stone. CANADA, Capt. J. Leitch.
ASIA, Capt. E. G. Lott. AMERICA, Capt. Muir.
AUSTRALASIAN, Capt. Cook. NIAGARA, Capt. Moodie.
EUROPA, Capt. Anderson.
SCOTIA, (now building.)

These vessels carry a clear white light at masthead; green on starboard bow; red on port bow.

CANADA, Muir, leaves Boston, Wednesday, Dec'r. 11.
AFRICA, Shannon, leaves New-York, Wednesday, December 18.
EUROPA, Anderson, leaves Boston, Wednesday, December 25.
AUSTRALASIAN, Cook, leaves New-York, Wednesday, January 1.
NIAGARA, Moodie, leaves Boston, Wednesday, January 8.
ASIA, Lott, leaves New-York, Wednesday, January 15.
Berths not secured until paid for.
An experienced Surgeon on board.
The owners of these ships will not be accountable for Gold, Silver, Bullion, Specie, Jewelry, Precious Stones or Metals, unless bills of lading are signed therefor, and the value therefor therein expressed. For freight or passage, apply to E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling Green.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS FOR EUROPE.

By order of the Secretary of State, all passengers leaving the United States are required to provide themselves with passports before they will be allowed on board the steamer.

Passengers will not be subjected to any trouble or delay in procuring them if they call for instructions at the Company's Offices, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

STEAM WEEKLY BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL—Landing and embarking passengers at Queenstown, Ireland. The Liverpool, New-York and Philadelphia Steamship Company intend dispatching their full-powered Clyde-built Iron Steamships as follows:

GLASGOW	SATURDAY, Dec. 21
CITY OF NEW-YORK	SATURDAY, Dec. 28
EDINBURGH	SATURDAY, Jan. 4

And every SATURDAY, at noon, from Pier No. 44 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

First Cabin	$75	Steerage	$30
First Cabin to London	80	Steerage to London	33
First Cabin to Paris	85	Steerage to Paris	38
First Cabin to Hamburg	85	Steerage to Hamburg	35

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.

Persons wishing to bring out their friends can buy tickets here at the following rates, to New-York: From Liverpool or Queenstown, First Cabin, $75, $85 and $105. Steerage from Liverpool, $40. From Queenstown, $30.

These Steamers have superior accommodations for passengers, and carry experienced Surgeons. They are built in water-tight iron sections, and have patent fire annihilators on board.

For further information apply, in Liverpool, to WILLIAM INMAN, Agent, No. 22 Water-st.; in Glasgow to WM. INMAN, No. 5 St. Enoch-square; in Queenstown to C. & W. D. SEYMOUR & CO.; in London to EIVES & MACEY, No. 61 King William-st.; in Paris to JULES DEGUE, No. 5 Place de la Bourse; in Philadelphia to JOHN G. DALE

INTERESTING FROM THE REBEL ARMY.

Statements of a Deserter on the Line of the Lower Potomac.

Number, Condition and Prospects of the Rebel Troops.

CAMP NEAR BUDD'S FERRY,
HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH REG. MASS. VOL.
SATURDAY, Dec. 7, 1861.

The camp of the Eleventh Massachusetts Regiment was thrown into a state of mingled curiosity and excitement this morning by the arrival of a secesh deserter, who excaped from the rebel batteries at Evansport, on the opposite side of the river, and crossed over to our pickets. He reports that he had been engaged, during the day of yesterday, in conveying oats in a small boat, from some point up Quantico Creek down to the batteries on the river. He is a resident of Dorchester County, in Maryland; has been employed as ship-carpenter in Baltimore; is personally acquainted with Gov. HICKS, and at the commencement of the war having some interests in Virginia requiring his presence, went over to regulate his affairs, and while there attended several secession gatherings, and became so imbued with their sentiments that he yielded to their persuasions and enlisted. Having seen sufficient service in the rebel ranks, and anxious to return to his native State, he formed the resolution to escape at the first favorable opportunity presenting itself. Consequently, last night finding himself in possession of a boat, he secretly conveyed several large packages of personal effects aboard his craft, and, aided by the fog prevailing, made good his escape during the night, and delivered himself up to our pickets on this side. He was this morning taken to the quarters of Col. BLAISDELL, of the Eleventh Massachusetts Regiment, and subsequently visited by Col. COWDEN in command of brigade, and taken before Gen. HOOKER, where he expressed a willingness to take the oath of allegiance, and a decided determination to abide by it. He was then released from custody, and has this afternoon returned, a guest in the Eleventh Massachusetts Regiment.

While in Richmond he enlisted in a corps called the Maryland Flying Artillery, Capt. SNOWDEN ANDREWS—an architect of Baltimore—which company was composed almost entirely of Marylanders. There is also another artillery company from Maryland, called the Baltimore Artillery, the commanders of which are not known to him, and who are stationed at or near this rebel point.

There are, as nearly as he can estimate, 25,000 troops concentrated at this point of the Potomac, and it is believed by them that the Federal troops of Gen. HOOKER'S Division are fully equal to that number. Their troops are under the command of Major-Gen. HOLMES, who, he understands, is a South Carolinian, and is a seceder from the United States regular army. His headquarters are at Brooks' Station, on the railroad, seventeen miles from the rebel batteries. Col. WIGFALL, who commanded the Texan regiment at this place, has been promoted to a Brigadier-General ship, and his headquarters are believed to be at Dumfries, four miles up Quantico Creek, and directly opposite our position. These Texans, our refugee states, are a wild, reckless, and ungovernable mob, shabbily uniformed, and slovenly in appearance.

The Tennessee regiment quartered here is the most unmanageable and unsoldierly of any in the rebel service. A gang of them shot a negro, a few days since, for little or no provocation. The artillery company, of which our informant was a private, numbers one hundred and twenty men, having six guns, and was formed with the express condition that they were to be instrumental in forcing Maryland into the Southern Confederacy, but since they have been stationed on the Potomac these assurances have been hushed. The Marylanders went into the arrangement in an excited state of feeling, and now most of them regret their error bitterly. A. Dr. ALDRICH, of Baltimore, who is now a driver in this company, is nearly beside himself at times when contrasting his former and present condition, and is strongly suspected, in consequence, of being a Unionist.

The larger portion of the rebel forces, under Gen. HOLMES, are quartered up Dumfries Creek, toward Manassas. How far in that direction the lines extend, my informant does not know. The balloon ascension, made yesterday by Gen. HOOKER and Prof. LOWE, in the "Constitution," was seen by the rebels, but all the rebel forces in this vicinity cannot be seen on account of the intervening hills and woods. They are prepared for a battle at any time, but the troops recognize no principle as the basis of their antagonism, but apparently fight from an innate love of bloodshed. He heard no accounts of sickness in HOLMES' Division, and the rebel hospitals are in good condition. The soldiers are generally well armed and clothed, and our informant certainly appears a hale and hearty man. He has heard of extreme suffering among the troops beyond Manassas and at Richmond.

Provisions range very high. Sugar 20 cents per pound; common boots $10 to $12 per pair; butter 50 cents per pound, and none to be had; and the breakfast he received at headquarters, this morning, served up by our worthy Chaplain, fully patented the fact that our guest appreciated the latter article.

The rebels have no vessels upon the Potomac, of any kind, capable of transporting two thousand troops across at once, and are not building gunboats, as has been represented by both contending parties. Their sentinels have recently been forbidden holding conversation with our pickets across the river.

Neither the rebel steamer *George Page*, or either of the captured schooners, have been injured by the shots from our side, nor any man about them. One of their men has been wounded at the North Point battery (Evansport, or Ship Point) by our battery at Budd's Ferry; he was taken to their hospital, and has not since been heard from. The inaccuracy of their artillery practice upon vessels going up and down the Potomac is entirely owing to the total inexperience of their gunners. They have not one competent artillerist among them.

The Confederates have fifteen mounted guns at Evansport, one of which is a beautiful English rifled, which throws a shell capable of containing 12 pounds of powder, although but 8 pounds are usually used. They are well fed, having plenty of fresh beef and new-made wheat bread, and have excellent ovens built for baking. Great coats and blankets are very scarce with them and cannot be obtained. Requisitions are constantly made upon the Army Quartermaster at Richmond, and the reply is as constantly reiterated "We have none, but hope to be able to supply you soon." Much of the clothing worn is made from slave cloth.

The ladies of Richmond and other places are exerting themselves zealously to contribute to the wants and comforts of the Southern army, and are even stripping their dwellings of blankets, &c., to supply the soldiers. Slaves, in many instances, are compelled to give up their shoes and go barefoot. Many of the boots worn in their army are manufactured in South Carolina and Tennessee, but command fabulous prices. Such boots as are selling at the North for *three* dollars, the soldiers, in fact everybody who wear them, are, at the seat of war, compelled to pay *ten* dollars. The soldiers are all paid off in Virginia Scrip, which dare not be refused by traders and others to whom it is tendered on penalty of incarceration in jail. This scrip is issued in denominations ranging from five cents upwards. The only specie currency which our informant has seen since the 1st of last June, was two half dimes.

They live in constant fear of an attack from the National fleet below us, and daily anticipate such an event. Great excitement prevailed in their camps, yesterday, in consequence of a telegraphic dispatch having been received by Gen. WIGFALL, to the effect that a National fleet was ascending from the mouth of the Potomac.

They are aware of a large National force being in the vicinity of Occoquan Creek, but do not know their number, or by whom commanded. They have telegraph lines leading to their various encampments, and concentrating at Richmond. BEAUREGARD is believed to have his headquarters between Manassas and Richmond at the present time.

The news of the action at Port Royal, and the capture of SLIDELL and MASON, was not promulgated among the troops until a few days since, and had a depressing effect upon them. The leaders are very sanguine of the ultimate success of their arms, and use every conceivable argument to inspire their soldiers with that idea, but are not entirely successful. The Marylanders are particularly disaffected, and would gladly embrace any opportunity to return home.

The sanitary condition of the Eleventh Massachusetts Regiment is unsurpassed by that of any other regiment in Gen. HOOKER'S Division, is equal to that of any in the army, and bears that acknowledgment from all the inspecting authorities who have visited us. The excellent health sustained is attributable to the skill and care of its medical staff and the discreet management of its efficient officers generally. We have but four sick in camp hospital, and only eighteen who are excused from duty from slight ailments. The recent death of private WALTER SCOTT ADDLINGTON, of Company F, and a resident of Weymouth, Mass., who was interred near the camp at Budd's Ferry, is the only one which has occurred for nearly three months. In a new-made brick chimney the thermometer stood at 58 degrees.

The balloon "Constitution" makes daily ascensions from Gen. HOOKER'S headquarters, and sketches are made of the rebel batteries. To-day, Monday, Dec. 9, there is heavy firing up the river, apparently from the flotilla, and the rebels are engaged in wasting powder and ball in endeavors to bring down the balloon. One shell has burst immediately beneath it.

The weather for the past two days has been of Summer mildness, and overcoats are thrown aside.

In consequence of the bursting of many of our shells in the close proximity of the rebel steamer *George Page*, she has been removed from Quantico Creek and taken about a mile and a half down the river and lodged in Chickawansy Creek.

There is at time of writing quite an exciting engagement in progress between our Battery at Budd's Ferry and the rebels across the river, many of our shells are seen to burst within their works, while their shots fly wonderfully wide of their mark. As yet they have done us no damage whatever. The flotilla have been firing all the morning till the present time, 2 o'clock, and are still engaged, but what is the occasion of the cannonading I am unable to state.

A splendid review of the New-Jersey Brigade, by Gen. HOOKER, came off to-day, upon a hill-side near his headquarters, and in full view of the enemy at the batteries at Evansport.

The flotilla this morning, Nov. 9, engaged the rebels, who were erecting a battery opposite the mouth of Mettawoman Creek, which is used by Government as a landing place for the stores forwarded to HOOKER'S Division. The rebels hurried from the scene of their labors in the greatest confusion, and the cries of the wounded were distinctly heard upon our side the river. After abandoning their works our men on board the gunboats went ashore, fired several houses, and destroyed the rebel works. The rebels have a Parrott gun mounted at Ship Point, which was taken by them at Bull run. Also a splendid English 96-pounder, which was brought into Charleston by running the blockade, and reached this point *vid* Richmond. They stand in great dread of the approach of BURNSIDE'S expedition, and Gen. HOLMES has reinforced them with two Georgia regiments. It is thought the Marylanders will now be removed from the vicinity of the river. Most of the guns cast at Richmond are poor concerns, and almost worthless, and but few of their shells explode. On Sunday last they could be seen busily engaged in strengthening their works along the river at Evansport, below Ship Point, and their soldiers were indulging in the most blasphemous and disgraceful tirades at our pickets who are stationed opposite them on the Potomac. Our men made no reply. ARGUS.

THE LATEST FROM HOOKER'S DIVISION.

PRACTICE OF THE REBEL BATTERIES UPON THE RIVER CRAFT—AN IMPROVEMENT IN GUNNERY.

QUARTERS ELEVENTH REGIMENT MASS. VOLS.,
CAMP NEAR BUDD'S FERRY, MD.,
Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1861.

During the night of Monday last, the picket guard, composed of Company H, Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers, under command of Lieut. C. H. COLBURN—as brave an officer as can be found in our tremendous army—experienced quite a bombarding from the rebel batteries on Ship Point, upon the opposite bank of the Potomac. The firing was the most rapid, and was executed with a greater degree of skill than has yet been displayed by the enemy at this point.

During the early part of the evening, some eight or ten schooners passed down the river upon our side of the stream. Whether they were observed by the enemy or not we are unable to say, but vessel after vessel slowly floated with the current past their batteries without tempting a salutation from them. There was no air stirring, and the river reflected back the bright moonbeams as from a sheen of silver, while the men on the craft gently impelled their way with noiseless oars, or pushed them through the calm river with long poles.

The two last, however, seemed reserved to partake of the fearful cannonade which suddenly opened upon them as they came opposite the batteries. The moon was shining brilliantly, and the sails, white as snow, offered a bewitching mark for their skill, and the death-song of the flaming shells rang sharply about them. The firing was much more commendably executed than hitherto, and the shots passed within a few feet of the vessels, however, without injury. The passage of the vessels was very slow, and the firing was continued until they had passed fairly beyond the range of their guns. They fired mostly shells, and it was noticed that many more exploded than usual.

Our pickets, who were stationed along the shore, stood in imminent danger, the shells exploding all about them; and "dodging the balls" was practised in a very successful manner. The shells could easily be traced by the brilliant light of the burning fuse, and their direction be accurately ascertained. By this means, doubtless, many lives were saved to us. The shells which burst after striking the ground were invariably found to throw the pieces forward, though radiating from the point of explosion, but the earth would be thrown about in all directions. When they burst in the air, then the pieces seemed to be thrown out in all directions, and the "dodge" could not be so safely relied upon.

Several of these shells burst so near the "beats" of our pickets as to cover the trail with earth, and pieces of the bombs were next morning picked up by the brave soldiers in their very pathway, and brought into camp, as reminders of their peril. Three or four of these terrible missiles burst within three or four rods of Mrs. BUDD'S house, and in close proximity to our battery, the pieces flying in among our boys who were there stationed, but without doing any of them the slightest injury. About thirty shots were fired, and most of them fell within pistol-shot of our guard line. Some shells thrown were large 96-pounders, and one which was found by the boys in the morning, and which had not exploded, was a beautiful specimen of art. The shell are all of round form, though differing very materially in point of workmanship.

During the day of Monday much opprobrious language was indulged in by the rebels at the batteries, against us and the North generally, and among other items of sociable intelligence, we were informed by a pair of lusty lungs that the owner thereof had not before been permitted the pleasure of an acquaintance with us, but would gratify us with an exhibition of his skill upon the first opportunity allowed him, which he had the honor of doing shortly afterwards, and we were afforded the privilege of silently complimenting him upon his superiority over his former associates at that point. It is evident the rebels have secured much more practical gunners in their batteries; and, perhaps, it would be wholesome advice to give our schooner captains, to await a favorable wind before attempting to run the batteries at Ship Point, either by day or moonlight night.

Last night they again attacked a couple of schooners, but they also escaped uninjured. The rebels now seem disposed to peril the passage of all vessels passing their batteries; and it is a fact worthy of notice that the Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers are now occupying probably the most important and hazardous position in this division of our army. They perform the picket duty at the points directly in the face of the enemy's powerful batteries. They are ever at their posts of duty, constant, reliable, vigilant and brave; and the State from whence they came has just cause to be proud of the gallant men she has sent into this field of occupation.

Another case of rebel desertion came to our knowledge yesterday from the captain of a small schooner which was running up past our lines on the river. It appears that a party of five or six soldiers, stationed on the Virginia shore, nearly opposite our lower flotilla, on Sunday evening put off in a small boat from the shore. They were discovered promptly, and several volleys of musketry followed them without effect. When beyond musket-range, they boldly gave three cheers for the Union, and pulled straight for our vessels. Two or three cannon were then discharged after them, but in vain. They reached the flotilla and were received on board one of the gunboats. They appeared delighted with the success of their escape, and at last accounts were still on board their ark of safety.

The rebels yesterday opened fire from a new fort on the river, about three miles below their batteries on Ship Point. They have erected no battery at this point, and the firing is supposed to have proceeded from field-pieces stationed on the shore, as their shot all fell short of our side of the river, which is two miles wide at this point.

The rebels are apparently receiving reinforcements, as the point on the opposite side of Quantico Creek from their batteries has, within the past few days, been occupied by troops, who are now engaged in building Winter quarters of logs, and covering them with tent-covers. At least they have that appearance, as seen through our glasses. ARGUS.

FROM GEN. BANKS' DIVISION.

A General Court-Martial—Parade and Review of Gen. Hamilton's Brigade—Examination of Commissioned Officers, &c.

FREDERICK, Md., Thursday, Dec. 12.

The firing at Poolesville on Tuesday proves to have been nothing but artillery practice by Gen. STONE'S batteries.

The general Court-martial convened this morning, but owing to the military programme of the day, no cases were brought up. The Court adjourned at an early hour.

The trial of Private WEST, of the Connecticut Fifth, for shooting and killing a comrade, while on a march towards Williamsport, has been ruled for Monday next.

The Second Brigade (Gen. HAMILTON) has a review to-day, and the regiments are now passing through the city towards the ground. All the State military celebrities and prominent Union citizens, were invited to be present by Gen. BANKS.

To-morrow the Third Brigade (Gen. WILLIAMS) will be reviewed, and subsequently the First Brigade (Gen. ABERCROMBIE.)

The departure of the Van Allen Cavalry battalion to join the regiment at Poolesville has been postponed by Gen. BANKS, who fully appreciates their services. Only two companies remain here at present, Company A, commanded by Capt. FITZSIMMONS, and Company K, commanded by Capt. G. W. COLE. The latter are particularly skilled in picket and scouting service, while the former are attached to Gen. BANKS in person, as a body guard.

Col. BERGER, Provost-Marshal, is taking energetic steps to suppress dissipation among the soldiers, and has restored quiet to the city. In a few days he will issue a series of orders, which will be executed to the letter, for the suppression of tippling and other vices.

The Twenty-seventh Indiana have organized a Masonic lodge, under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Indiana, of which Capt. CASSIDY, of Company E, is Master; Capt. HILL, of Company H, is the Senior Warden; Lieut. ASH, of Company —, is Junior Warden; Capt. KOP, of Company D, Treasurer, and Capt. BUHLER, of Company C, Secretary. The dispensation is dated 15th of November.

Last night a respectable citizen, name unknown, of this place, was robbed of $160 and a gold watch and valuable chain, while passing hence on the Baltimore turnpike. The Federal detectives are on the track of the robber.

FREDERICK, Friday, Dec. 13.

The great feature of yesterday was a parade and review of the Second Brigade, commanded by Gen. HAMILTON. Only four regiments were present, the remainder being on detached service at a distance from this point. The appearance of the ranks, and the discipline and drill of the men, were subjects of high encomiums by a large concourse of local military gentlemen, and a multitude of miscellaneous spectators. All the Brigadier-Generals and most of the Colonels attached to Gen. BANKS' Staff were present for the occasion, forming a brilliant military galaxy. The field was not sufficiently large to admit of all the evolutions proposed, but sufficient were performed to prove the high efficiency of the brigade. The regiments reviewed were the Ninth New-York, Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania, Third Wisconsin and Twenty-seventh Indiana.

A review of the Third Brigade (Gen. WILLIAMS) takes place to-day. The regiments now present in this Brigade are the Forty-sixth Pennsylvania, Fifth Connecticut, Twenty-eighth New-York and Nineteenth New-York.

The First Michigan Cavalry (Col. BRODHEAD,) which left Washington on Thursday, arrived here yesterday, and went into camp South of the Monocacy, near the Second Brigade. A finer appearing and apparently better drilled and better equipped regiment never took the field.

The examination of commissioned officers, which was commenced at Darnestown, will be reopened here this week. The Board of Examination consists of Gen. HAMILTON, Col. GRAEY, and Maj. DWIGHT. The testimony adduced in the several cases to come before the commission will be in regard to the morality, sobriety, and military ability of such officers as may be designated by their superior commanders.

Company E, of the New-York Nineteenth, Capt. SCHENCK, left Muddy Branch, at 8½ o'clock, yesterday, and reached the regiment here at 5½ o'clock the same day, performing a march of 32 miles in nine hours. This is pronounced by military officers here to be almost without parallel, considering the condition of the roads.

Your correspondent acknowledges the courtesy of of Col. COLGROVE to the following interesting

LIST OF MORTALITY OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH INDIANA REGIMENT SINCE ITS ORGANIZATION.

Company A—James Allen, killed by railroad accident, at Alliance, Ohio, body sent home; Jas. Palmer, died at Darnestown, Md.; Chas. Robison, died Nov. 20, of typhoid fever, at Darnestown.

Company B—Stephen Borden, Nov. 12, at Darnestown, of measles; B. F. Chesnut, at Darnestown, Nov. 22, of measles; John S. Fackler, of typhoid fever, at Darneston, Nov. 20.

Company C—William Cline, of typhoid fever, at Darnestown, Nov. 18.

Company D—Adam Williams, Frederick, Dec. 9, of measles.

Company E—John F. Williams, Nov. 9, at Darnestown.

Company F—Henry Sipes, Darnestown, Nov. 23, of measles. Wm. Brown, do.

Company G—John Robison, Darnestown, Oct. 31, of typhoid fever. Sam'l. Fleener, Darnestown, Dec. 1, measles.

Company H—Henry McCaslin, shot by accident at Edwards' Ferry, Oct. 25.

Company K—Richard Suddith, Darnestown, Nov 18, measles.

The officers of several other regiments have volunteered similar lists.

THE REBELLION IN KENTUCKY.

The Late Outrages near Jacksonville—Sudden Disappearance of Secessionists.

BAGDAD, Ky., Saturday, Dec. 14.

A courier from Jacksonville, Ky., says that when Capt. LEE arrived with reinforcements for Col. WHITAKER, he found the house where the Secessionists were endeavoring to make Union men subscribe to the oath of allegiance to the Southern Confederacy entirely deserted.

Capt. LEE then dispatched a squad of soldiers to several secession residences, who found they had al been vacated, with evidences of a hasty retreat.

Three secessionists are reported to have been wounded at the skirmish yesterday at Jacksonville.

Col. WHITAKER ordered the buildings from whence shots were fired upon his men to be set on fire, and destroyed, but Capt. LEE, at the request of the Union men who feared retaliation on the withdrawal of the Federal troops, got the order revoked.

USEFUL REGULATION IN MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Dec. 14.

Persons arriving here from the seceded States are hereafter ordered to report themselves at the office of the Provost-Marshal to register their names and subscribe to the oath of allegiance. This is to relieve persons who come here in good faith, seeking the protection of the Government from the suspicion which naturally attaches to all parties from the South, and to prevent their arrest or molestation.

ARRIVAL OF THE VERMONT MORGAN CAVALRY REGIMENT.

Gen. H. HENRY BAXTER, of Rutland, Vermont, aid to Gov. HOLBROOK, of that State, is at the Astor House, having come to this City to commission Col. FRANK E. HOWE as Military Agent for Vermont, and to arrange with the latter for the transportation of the First Cavalry Regiment, Col. L. B. PLATT, through this City, on its way to Washington. This regiment will reach here early this morning, in 141 cars, with their horses, equipments, tents and full camp equipage. They will land at the Thirty-first-street Railroad station, and will quarter in that vicinity till to-morrow to rest the horses. To-morrow morning the regiment will march down Broadway, and embark for Washington. The *personnel* of this regiment is unsurpassed by any in the service, being wholly composed of property-holders, *bona fide* patriots of the Green Mountain State. Their equipments are of a superior order, and everything pertaining to the regiment is of the best material. The horses are of the celebrated Morgan stock, sleek, well-cared for, know their masters, and are excellently well-drilled. The regiment numbers 1,030 men, and over 1,100 horses. It requires seven tons of hay and 400 bushels of oats to feed the horses of this regiment daily. Gov. HOLBROOK arrived here yesterday to attend the embarkation of the regiment, and many of the Sons of Vermont will form a cavalcade to-morrow morning to escort their brothers-in-arms through the City. The parade of this regiment will make a brilliant and imposing display.

LOCAL MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

DEPARTURE OF THE FOURTH AND FIFTH REGIMENTS OF THE IRISH BRIGADE.

To-morrow morning the Fourth and Fifth Regiments of the brigade will arrive in this City from their quarters at Fort Schuyler, and proceed *vid* the New-Jersey Railroad to Washington, and thence immediately to encamp beside the other regiments of the organization in the division of Gen. SUMNER, in Virginia. The Fourth Regiment is commanded by Col. HENRY M. BAKER, an experienced and accomplished soldier, who was Colonel of the New-Jersey Second Militia Regiment during its three months' service. Four batteries of the Fifth Flying Artillery, numbering some five hundred men, will also depart under the command of Major THOMAS O'NEILL, who served with distinction through the Mexican war. These batteries are commanded by Captains HOGAN, MCMAHON, MITCHELL and O'DONOHUE. Our readers will remember the narrative we published some weeks ago of the escape of Capt. O'DONOHUE from Richmond. He was attached to MEAGHER'S Zouaves, of the Sixty-ninth, fought gallantly, and was captured at Bull Run, and taken to the capital of Virginia, from which he made his escape under circumstances sufficient to test the courage, daring and endurance of the boldest. Returned home and obtaining the proper authority, he enlisted his battery, and is now once more off to the wars, under his old chieftain. The other officers are well-known to this community. Capt. MCMAHON has been fighting round the world since his boyhood—from Europe to South America, whither he accompanied WALKER in his expeditions to that region. Capt. HOGAN formerly commanded the Napper Tandy Artillery Company of Brooklyn.

Acting Brig.-Gen. MEAGHER deserves praise for the success which has attended his efforts in raising this Brigade for the Union. He commenced his labors at a time when the prospects of raising such a corps were gloomy and uncertain. Nothing daunted by these difficulties he worked and lectured, traveled throughout the country, now organizing recruiting-depôts, and again advocating the cause of the Government.

The great majority of the men joined the Brigade under the conviction that THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER was to be its chief, and they will be grievously disappointed with any other result. The appointment of any other person to the command would, we are assured, cause the utmost dissatisfaction to the ablest of the officers of these regiments, and most unacceptable to the rank and file. Acting Brig.-Gen. MEAGHER will conduct the troops to Washington. The transport will carry them to the foot of Thirty-fourth-street; thence they will proceed to Fourteenth-street, down Broadway and Cortlandt-street, to the Jersey City Ferry.

NEWS FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

SEVERE STORM IN CALIFORNIA.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Tuesday, Dec. 10.

During the past four days, the heaviest rain storm that has been experienced for years has prevailed in California, causing severe freshets in the valleys, and great destruction of property.

The American River rose to a great height, breaking through the Levee and flooding the City of Sacramento from one end to the other. The water is four feet deep in the streets, this morning, and the people are driven to the second story of their houses. Business is entirely suspended.

Arrived, ships *Storm King*, from Boston, and *Challenger*, from New-York.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Wednesday, Dec. 11.

The steamer *Golden Age* has sailed for Panama, carrying 400 soldiers, 200 passengers, and $860,000 in treasure. Among her passengers is Gen. SHIELDS, who accepts of the Brigadier-Generalship tendered him.

The freshet from the recent heavy rains extends throughout the valley portions of the State. The damage done is immense. The farmers have suffered great loss by the drowning of their stock, while bridges, fences and other property has been swept away by the flood.

A part of Marysville and Stockton, as well as Sacramento entirely, are under water.

A number of lives have been lost, but how many is not as yet ascertained.

Several brick buildings at Marysville were undermined by the flood, and fell a heap of ruins.

The loss of property at Sacramento is estimated at over half a million of dollars, and falls upon all the people of the city.

Communications with many districts is cut off, and business suspended.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Wednesday, Dec. 11—P. M.

The weather for the past two days has been more pleasant, and is apparently becoming settled. The waters are gradually receding.

The funeral ceremonies in honor of the late Col. BAKER are engrossing the attention of the people today.

The volunteer force, the State militia, the civic organizations, and the people generally are joining in the funeral procession, which is one of the largest ever witnessed in this city.

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, Dec. 12.

Arrived—Ships *Deer* and *Nord*, from Glasgow; *Vitula*, from New-York.

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Dec. 13.

Sailed—Ship *Commonwealth*, for Valparaiso.

About twenty thousand dollars have been subscribed here for the relief of the sufferers at Sacramento by the flood. The water has been from two to twelve feet deep in nearly every house in that city. One-third of the city is still overflowed. The water, however, is slowly receding.

FROM BERMUDA.

Arrival of the Commander-in-Chief of the English Expedition to Mexico.

By the arrival of the *Eliza Barss*, which sailed from Hamilton on the 30th ult., arrived here yesterday morning, we receive files of Brmuda papers to Nov. 27.

The *Bermudian* of that date says:

"H. M. line-of-battle ship *Nile*, Capt. E. K. BARNARD, C. B., bearing the flag of Rear Admiral Sir ALEXANDER MILNE, K. C. B., naval Commander-in-Chief in these seas, arrived here in the very quick passage of 3 days 19 hours, from Halifax, on Saturday last.

The gallant Admiral is accompanied by Lady MILNE, and the other members of his family, all of whom we are happy to learn are in the enjoyment of good health."

[Advertisement.]

NEW-YEAR'S CALLS.—Some ladies are doubtful as to whether they shall receive calls this year, but "nary a doubt" exists in the minds of the gentlemen as to where they shall purchase the stylish *chapeau*, whose superb grace is to invest their New Year's *tout ensemble* with additional distinction. Only KNOX, of No. 212 Broadway, corner of Fulton-street, can furnish a hat equal to the occasion.

[Advertisement.]

CHRISTMAS GAS.—A very large and beautiful assortment of porcelain and mica gas shades will be found at the manufacturing gas fixture depôt of WARNER PECK & Co., No. 579 Broadway, opposite Niblo's.

Passengers Sailed.

DEC. 14.—*In steamship Bavaria, for Hamburg, Southampton, &c.*—F. Landstein, M. Fornachon, New-York; M. Gradelle, France; H. Hethemann, New-York; Jos. Traut, Cincinnati; L. W. Gilley, Thomaston; Alexander Arwide, Mexico; Mr. and Mrs. Teubert and three children, New-York; Mr. and Mrs. LaBusziere, France; Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt, St. Louis; Mrs. Stagnetti and child, N. Y.; C. Gellermann, Balt.; D. D. Neal, J. D. Husing, George Von Deshen, San Francisco; Charles Koch, San Francisco; Charles Doerr, Philadelphia; Hermann Grunow, Wisconsin; G. H. Haring, Brooklyn; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Braun, three children and two infants, Pittsburgh; Mrs. A. Lepeme, New-York; Mr. and Mrs. Kuntzel, St. Louis; Capt. H. Dupechi, French brig Lucien; Fred. Haussmann, Milwaukee; Herm. Kunts, New-York, and others in steerage—total, 93.

DEC. 14—*In steamship City of Baltimore, for Liverpool.*—George Hughes and wife, Mrs. Graydon, Annie Phillips, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Macauley, Mr. Stacey, W. A. Withnell, Michael Bakounin, R. Hollier, Wm. Brown, J. A. Ange, Edmund Dumont, Eugene Dumont, Edward King, Forrester Andrew, Edward A. Andrew, Robert Johnson, Thomas Furman, H. W. Small, wife and two children, Alexander G. Findlay, James A. Narine, Wm. Knowles, Richard Eccles, O. M. Phillips, E. H. Gennessy, Andrew McNair, George Furlong, Gustav Rowald and wife, Capt. Duncan and wife, Wm. T. Hathaway, Wm. Arille, Alex. Rankin and daughter, Frederick Reuter, D. W. Eares, Dixon G. Watts, Lamslans Ujheizl and son, Joseph White, wife, child and infant, Wm. Smith, Wm. Wreford, W. Atkinson, and others in the steerage.

In bark Ilva, for St. Thomas, W. I.—Mr. James E. Hill, Mr. James Abbott, Mr. James F. Finlay, Lieut.-Col. McDonald, lady and child, Miss Anna Bailey.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises.... 7 17 | Sun sets.... 4 34 | Moon sets.... 5 49
HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.
Sandy Hook. 5 55 | Gov. Island. 6 44 | Hell Gate.... 8 06

MARINE INTELLIGENCE

NEW-YORK ...SATURDAY, Dec. 14.

Cleared.

Steamers Ironsides, Vandivere, Philadelphia, J. & N. Briggs; Novelty, Shaw, Philadelphia; Chesapeake, Crowell, Portland; Suwanee, Padleford, Annapolis.

Ships Undaunted, Hatch, Boston, Bassett, Baker & Co.; John L. Dimmock, Howard, Boston, J. O. Baker & Co.; Rapid, Marshalk, Vera Cruz, Hargous & Co.; W. F. Storer, Trask, Liverpool, Trask & Dearborn; Camilla, Perry, London, C. C. Duncan & Co.; Thornton, Collins, Liverpool, Williams & Guion; Arracan, Kelly, Boston, Crocker, Wood & Co.; Lucy Hayward, Stone, Cadiz, Miller & Houghton; Amelia, Bartlett, Glasgow, Thomas Dunham; Maria Greenleaf, Merriman, Annapolis, H. P. Thompson; Anna Thompson, Merriman, Annapolis, H. P. Thompson.

Barks D. C. Murray, Van Namee, Nantes, J. W. Elwell & Co.; Golden Eagle, McDowell, Cork, J. E. Ward & Co.; Guardsman, (Br.,) Merriam, London, R. C. Gurney; Kenmore, Crerar, Queenstown, A. Leary.

Brigs Blue Nose, (Br.,) Journey, Cork, Boyd & Hincken; Charles, (Br.,) Wyman, Gonaives, Tynes & Smith; Sparta, (Br.,) McCullough, Matanzas, J. E. Ward & Co.; Sarah Peters, Gilbert, Carbanen, Cuba, C. & E. J. Peters.

Schooners R. L. Fay, Sheppard, Nuevitas, master; J. Price, Lewis, Philadelphia, Baker & Dayton; Empress, Smith, Boston, Metcalf & Duncan; Kate Field, Allen, Constantinople, D. C. Murray.

Sloop Comet, Provost, Stamford, master.

Arrived.

Steamer Kennebec, Houghtalin, Philadelphia and Cape May, with mdse. and passengers to F. Perkins.

Steamer Raritan, Slover, Philadelphia, with mdse. to Loper & Kirkpatrick.

Steamer Ironsides, Vandivere, Philadelphia, with mdse. to J. & N. Briggs.

Steamer Vulcan, Morrison, Philadelphia, with mdse. to J. & N. Briggs.

Steamer Merchant, ——, Philadelphia, with mdse. to J. & N. Briggs.

Ship Alexander, (of Nassau, N. P.,) Baxter, Hong Kong July 1, with teas, &c., to Bassett, Bacon & Co.; entered the Gilliole passage Aug. 3, same day crossed the equator in lon. 129 30 East; passed through Onbay passage 20th, passed Savue Islands 22d; experienced light winds the entire passage. Sept. 27, off Natal, experienced a heavy gale; the wind shifting suddenly to the S. W., was compelled to run before it, to get in sail; lost jib, flying-jib, foretopsail and topgallantsail, mainroyal and maintopgallantsail; carried away maintopsail-yard; furled everything except the mainpencer, and was hove to 12 hours before it moderated; blowing with much violence and shipping some water. Made Cape Agulhas Oct. 3; passed around the Cape of Good Hope 4th. Had light winds from thence to St. Helena, where she arrived 18th, and sailed 20th; crossed the equator in the Atlantic in lon. 26 10 Nov. 2; same day boarded Br. bark Majestic, from Liverpool for Mauritius, 46 days out; got some English papers with frightful news about privateers; lost the S. E. trades in lat. 7 N.; had light variable winds from thence to lat. 3, when had light winds from N. E. Nov. 22, in the lat. of Bermuda, lon. 83 45, since which time have had a continuation of northerly gales. Nov. 27 had a tremendous gale from N. W., blowing 48 hours, and on Dec. 5 another, commencing at S. W., and shifting suddenly to N. W., continuing for three days.

Ship Wild Pigeon, Mayhew, Rio Janeiro Nov. 10, in ballast to Faber and Cushing. Sld. in co. with bark Agnes, for Baltimore; Star of Peace, for Hong Kong; ships Paragon, for Calcutta; Globe, for Cork; Baden, for do.; J. Webster Clarke, for St. Thomas; and the bark Vivid Light, for Boston, sailed a few days previously. Passed Hatteras when 23 ds. from Rio; since then had fogs and calms. Nov. 14, lat. 17 20 S., long. 34 20, spoke bark Mary, Thompson, (whaler,) from Pernambuco, on a cruise; Nov. 16, lat. 16 20 S., long. 34 20, spoke ship Helia, (Dutch,) from Rotterdam for Melbourne; Nov. 19, lat. 8 30 S., lon. 34 57, brig Imberdorf, (Ham.,) for New-York; Dec. 10, lat. 38 N., lon. 72 30, schr. S. B. Usher, (Br.,) from St. Johns, P. R.

Ship Rowantree, (Br., of Liverpool,) Waswell, Havana Nov. 2, via Nassau, N. P., 11 ds., with sugar to P. Harmony, Nephews & Co. Put into Nassau, having been ashore on the Bahama Banks, and started a leak.

Ship Chase, Edwards, Antwerp Nov. 9, in ballast to G. Bulkley. Nov. 46, off the Lizzards, passed ship Patrick Henry, from London for New-York. Same time, passed one of the X Line, also for New-York.

Ship Electric, (Ham.,) Johnson, Hamburg 52 ds., with mdse. and 92 passengers to L. E. Amsinck & Co. Came the southern passage, and had fine weather. Has not reefed a topsail the whole passage.

Ship Piscataqua, (of Portsmouth,) Williams, Havre 44 ds., in ballast to order.

Ship Thalaba, (Br., of St. John, N. B.,) Kelly, Liverpool 40 ds., with mdse. to Richard Irvin & Co.

Ship Henry, (Br., of St. John, N. B.,) Davis, Kingston, Jam., 27 ds., in ballast. Has anchored in Quarantine.

Ship Wentram, (Nor.,) Ellingsen, London 72 ds., in ballast to Funch, Meincke & Wendt.

Ship Pyramid, (of Thomaston,) Sleeper, Newry, Ireland 43 ds., in ballast to Snow & Burgess.

Ship Julia Lawrence, (of Rockland,) Curtis, London 42 ds., in ballast to Snow & Burgess.

Ship Thomas Jefferson, of Boston, Rollins, Havre 40 ds., in ballast to Harbeck & Co.

Ship Annie Sise, of Portsmouth, N. H., Sullivan, Trapani —, with 1,235 tons salt to master.

Ship Clarissa Currier, of Newburyport, Knapp, London 56 ds., in ballast to master.

Bark Glenwood, Glover, Santos 46 ds., in ballast to Jonas Smith & Co. When in lat. 29 30, lon. 67 30, boarded ship Moulin, from Demerara for London. Dec. 8, lat. 35 40, lon. 73 30, passed schr. Sahwa, bound N., with loss of foretopmast; same time, saw schr. Arctic, of St. John, N. B., bound N. The G. has been 25 ds. N. of lat. 15, with northerly winds and calms. Dec. 3, had a severe gale from N. to W. N. W.

Bark Johann Albrecht, (Mecklenburgh,) Brandt, Waterford 45 ds., in ballast to order. Had very bad weather most of the passage.

Bark Phenix, (Br. of Liverpool,) Graves, Antigua